

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, August 13, 1987

Published Since 1877

Baptist develops sickle cell treatment

By Ken Camp

DALLAS (BP) — Through 17 years of painstaking scientific research, Sunday Fadulu of First Baptist Church of Houston believes God has guided him toward a breakthrough in the treatment of sickle cell anemia.

"This has definitely been the work of the Lord," said Fadulu, who described himself as a product of Southern Baptist missions in Nigeria. "My objective always has been that the Lord would use this research to help the people with sickle cell anemia who need treatment."

Sickle cell anemia is an inherited condition, found chiefly among blacks, in which red blood cells become crescent-shaped due to defective hemoglobin. Fadulu, a professor of microbiology at Texas Southern University in Houston and adjunct professor at the University of Houston, and two colleagues have developed a drug that appears to alleviate all sickle cell symptoms and to lower the cholesterol level of recipients.

Fadulu traces both his interest in science and his Christian commitment back to his childhood in Nigeria. Although his grandfather had been a tribal chieftain involved in traditional

religions, Fadulu's father and mother were converted to Christianity as a result of Southern Baptist missionary efforts.

His father graduated from a Baptist college and seminary in Nigeria and then became headmaster of a Baptist school.

While studying at a Baptist high school in Nigeria, young Fadulu was influenced both spiritually and educationally by his missionary teachers.

"I can remember praying for science teachers to come to our school, and three came to teach biology, chemistry, and physics my last year in high school," he said. "Then I prayed hard that I would be able to further my education."

Fadulu attended Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, Okla., graduating with a bachelor's degree in 1964. He then earned a master's degree and a doctor of philosophy degree in medical microbiology at Oklahoma University.

While studying hematology at OU, Fadulu conducted research on the therapeutic effects of the "chewing sticks" that are used for oral hygiene in the equatorial regions of Africa. His original intent was to determine if

microorganisms in the plant killed germs in the mouth.

In the process of his research, Fadulu succeeded in isolating and extracting compounds from the plants that alleviate symptoms of sickle cell anemia when administered orally in concentrated form.

"The quantity of the active ingredients in the chewing sticks is so small a person would have to chew a house full of trees in one day to get the same results," he said.

The drug already has proven successful in the first round of clinical trials, and Fadulu expects to see it test marketed in northern and central Africa, India, Saudi Arabia, and possibly Latin America within six months.

Pending U.S. Federal Drug Administration approval, the drug could be available in the United States within 18 months.

Although various hurdles in the past 17 years have been discouraging, Fadulu said the support of fellow Christians and the assurance that he was in God's will have kept him working.

"My Sunday School class at First Baptist Church has been a tremen-

dous source of inspiration to me. They are like my second family, and their prayers have helped me overcome obstacles," he said.

Already, Fadulu's work has attracted international attention, and he has received numerous invitations to present his findings. He considers these speaking invitations opportunities to testify of God's power.

"I tremble when called on to do this,

but once I get up, I feel a tremendous surge of power and confidence. I know it is the Lord who has brought me to this point. That is something scientists often don't want to admit. They're reluctant to believe anything that cannot be examined. But I am completely confident that this has been the work of God."

Ken Camp writes for Texas Baptists.

What's Inside?

Editorials, page 2

Youth Night photos, page 4

Gulfshore bids, page 3

Letters to the editor, page 8

Seminary receives Koran — handlettered, 300 years old

By Mark Wingfield

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — A 300-year-old handlettered copy of the Koran has been placed on permanent loan in the A. Webb Roberts Library of Southwestern Seminary here.

The book belongs to Larry Keilberg of Wichita Falls, Texas, who purchased it from a Muslim in Chad for the equivalent of \$40.

The Koran is the sacred scripture of Islam. The prophet Mohammed said the book's contents were revealed to him over a period of 20 years in the seventh century.

An exact date has not been placed on the Southwestern Seminary copy. Three people with knowledge of the Muslim faith have examined the manuscript and estimate it to be between 300 and 700 years old.

The text is written in Kufic, a language predating modern Arabic, said Ben Rogers, seminary archivist. However, scribes continued to use Kufic rather than Arabic to copy the Koran because of the script's beauty, he said.

Ink decorations of various designs appear throughout the text. The three colors of ink used in the manuscript were perhaps made by boiling pomegranate skins, Rogers said.

Paper in the book is handmade, with at least two different watermarks. "The pages appear to have been roll-

ed much like dough by a rolling pin, creating the rounded edges," he said.

Keilberg obtained the manuscript in 1973 while working as a pilot for an oil company in Chad. Wichita Falls Pastor Morris Chapman recommended Keilberg should donate the book to Southwestern, where it could be used in the study of ancient religions.

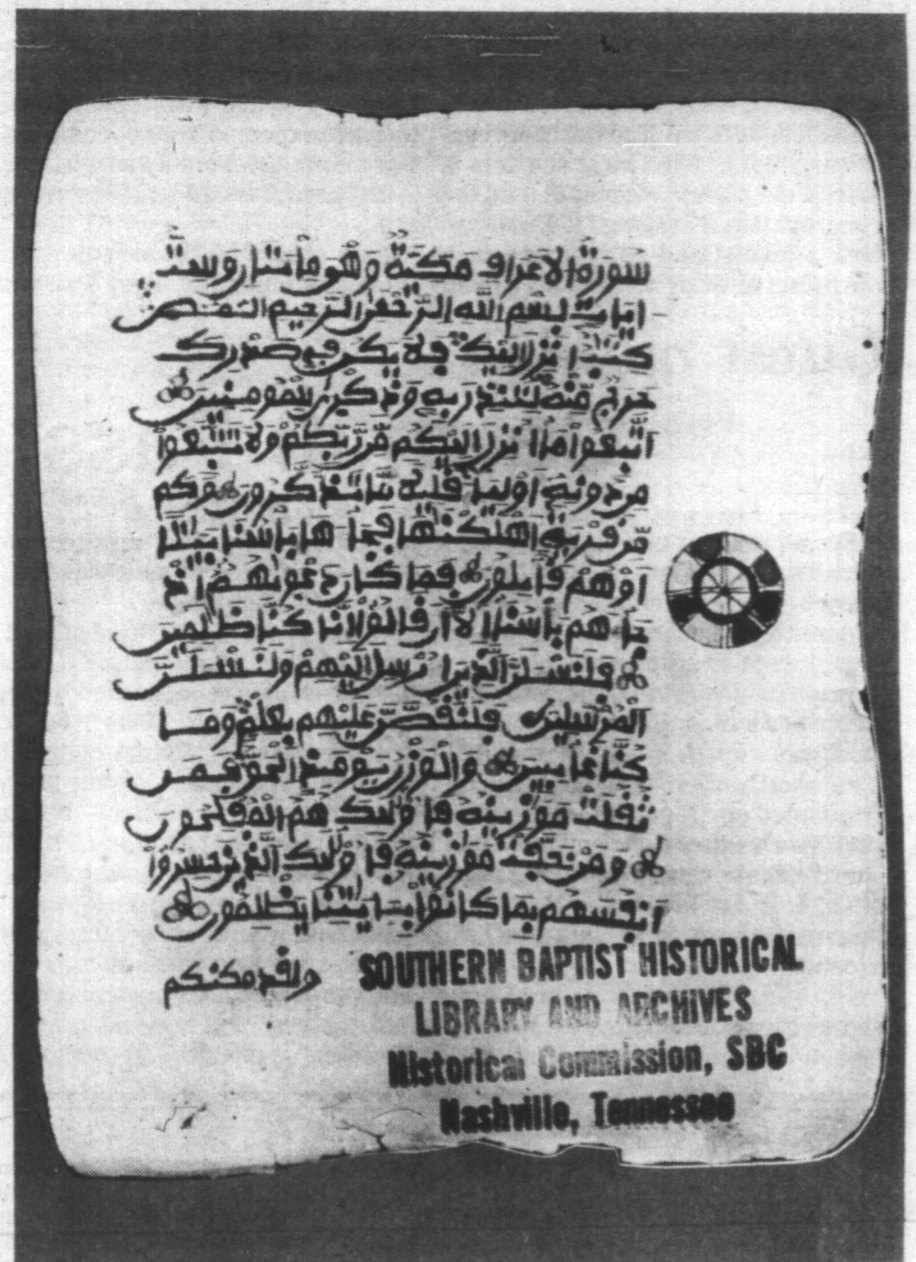
The Koran is an important book for seminary students to understand, said Finlay Graham, guest professor of missions and a missionary in the Middle East for 40 years.

Muslims claim to have 1 billion followers, Graham said, noting, "We need to become acquainted with their teachings so we can approach them with the gospel in a realistic way."

Graham said in working with Muslims he uses the Koran as a basis for dialogue. They "claim that the Koran they have is an exact copy of that which is at the throne of God, and they revere it so much," he said, pointing out portions of the Koran can be compared with the Old Testament and New Testament.

"Looking at it from their point of view," Graham said of Southwestern's document, "we have something that is of a rare nature."

Mark Wingfield writes for Southwestern Seminary.



(Photo by Wayne Morrison, SWBTS photographer. All Rights Reserved.)

Editorials . . . by Don McGregor

Lo, the "poor" accompanists

Now that budget time has rolled around again, there is a matter that I have been promoting for 25 years, though not with much success. The time has come again, however, so I'll make another stab at it.

A little-known fact that still does not need to be bandied about is that for 16 or 17 years I was a part-time music director in churches around Dallas, Texas. For the most part of this time, I was a staff member with the Baptist Standard, Texas Baptist state paper.

During this time I learned some things that very likely are not common knowledge.

A couple of weeks ago I was asked to lead the singing and direct the choir special at my own church. I had not seen the choir number before. That made no difference. The regular director had the choir well rehearsed. As I told the choir before the service, the congregation would be expecting someone to be standing in front of the choir beating time, but the real leaders of the choir special would be the instrumentalists.

And that is the way it worked out. I took my place, but the pianist was the choir director for that number. My total contribution was to look over at her and nod.

Due to my ability and previous experience, I was able to be in synchronization with the music by the second measure and missed only one beat the rest of the way through.

I learned a long time ago that the song leader, whatever he or she might be called, does not lead the congregational singing. What he or she does is to lead the pianist, who does lead the congregational singing. If there are both a pianist and an organist, then the music director needs to keep them

together. But they lead the singing.

This has been presented in order to call attention to the contribution that the instrumentalists make to church services. Yet in many instances they do not get paid. Some will say that they should donate their talents to the Lord, but that should be the case no more than with the preacher and the music director. Some will say, as some have said in my church, that the instrumentalists should no more expect pay than do the Sunday School teachers. But Sunday School teachers aren't faced with years of expensive lessons and much practice in order to be able to do the job well.

In the early sixties in a church in Dallas where I was the member for a time but not the music director, I tried to get a pay scale established for the two instrumentalists. I didn't make it. Later I was called as music director to a smaller church where the instrumentalists were paid, and I prevailed upon the organist to take the same position at my new church.

I have tried for two years to get the instrumentalists paid at my own church, but I have failed.

There is one simple point to this piece, and it is a message that I have been preaching for many years. That is that the organists and pianists in churches should have some remuneration for what they do. They have spent long hours in lessons and in practice to be able to serve in their capacities. They have to practice what they plan to do in the services. They have to practice with the choir. And they are expected to be at choir practice and at the worship services just as the preachers and music directors are.

They should be rewarded.

Make no mistake. They love what

they are doing and will do it without pay, as is exhibited in hundreds of churches everywhere. The preachers and music directors love what they are doing, too. But there are few instances when they don't get paid.

The reason is that we are a platform-oriented society. We are used to paying for what we see. The preacher and the music director are highly visible people in the church services, so we have no qualms about paying them. The instrumentalists usually work behind the scenes. About the only time they are doing anything by themselves is during the offering and before and after the services. And always at those times there is something else going on also.

We use the prelude time to catch up on our visiting.

I have insisted from the beginning of my involvement in the music area that the offertory time is one of the most meaningful in the service. But the activity of the moment takes away somewhat from the beauty of the music and the meditation.

The instrumentalists literally hold the service together. They fill in the blank spots with music. They modulate the music to move it up or down as the needs indicate. They create moods of meditation, joy, dedication, and commitment as the needs for such arise.

Media attention, of course, is always on the visible people on the platform when services are being broadcast or covered for some reason for news items. And this piece would not at all attempt to say that those who are visible and active on the platform are not important. Perhaps they are the most important people there.

There are, however, some other very important people on the scene

AGELESS HYMNS AND THEIR GREAT COMPOSERS



who need to be recognized and rewarded in a suitable fashion.

They are the instrumentalists.

In many instances they have been called to their tasks just as have others who are routinely paid for their services. Many times they are called earlier in life, for they are able to make distinctive contributions at an earlier age. They begin preparing for what they do as early as five years of age and never quit seeking improvement. It is not unusual for a keyboard person to spend 50 or 60 years in highly specialized service to a church.

The fact that the instrumentalists many times come from the church membership is no reason that they should not be paid. They are rendering the same service whether they were members of that church or came from somewhere else.

In any case, if it is at all possible, they should get paid.

Baptists are signally blessed with many fine instrumentalists. Other denominations don't seem to have so many and many times use Baptist musicians because of that. Of course, they pay for their services. So should we.

All of this, of course, is not to detract from the importance of the music director; for unless the choir is well-trained, the instrumentalists will not be able to accompany the choir successfully. And, indeed, there are many occasions when a choir will perform at inspired heights because of the inspired leadership of the music director. But I have found that no one speaks up for the accompanists.

I have tried to do that through the years.

Guest opinion . . . Catch it! Pass it on!

By Herschel H. Hobbs

For a preacher one of the greatest agonies is the pain of undelivered speech. While serving on the Peace Committee I kept quiet — in public. Now I want to speak out.

In a recent interview Charles Fuller described a beautiful scene which he said was "worth it all." It was 4:15 a.m., shortly after we had unanimously adopted our report to the Convention. Two brothers who had often had sharp debate were embracing each other. I do not know who they were because there was hugging all around.

I do know that the first ones I hugged were two brothers with whom I had had sharp exchange less than 30

minutes before. Our disagreement became agreement as it was lost in Agape, Christian love.

Agape is the highest kind of love. It characterizes God's nature (1 John 4:8). It is his love expressed through his Son (1 John 4:10; John 3:16). It is the love we have for him in return for his love (1 John 4:19). It is the love we are to have for each other — because of his love for us (1 John 4:11). It is the love of 1 Cor. 13 and Eph. 4:15.

Agape love is expressed even to those with whom we may disagree — or not even like. Read Romans 5:8. For, you see, we are Christian brothers and sisters. The Greek word for "brother" is adelphos. It comes from

another Greek word adelphus (Thayer's Lexicon). It means out of the same womb. Two children out of the same womb are brothers and/or sisters. Our source of life is God in Christ. So we are Christian brothers and sisters!

The story is told that as an old man in Ephesus, the Apostle John would gather his flock about him and say, "Little children, love one another." He might well be saying that to us right now.

Yes, it was a beautiful sight in that room in St. Louis at 4:15 a.m., June 15, 1987.

When Louie Newton died, I became the oldest living former president of

Powerline to be for young people

The Baptist Record has begun a new series of features which it hopes will attract readers among young people. It is called Powerline and comes from the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission.

Actually, the series is not new in the Baptist Record, for it ran weekly several years ago. The source was

our beloved convention. That bestows no special authority or wisdom upon me. But as such I invoke but one privilege. That is to say, "Catch It, Pass It On!"

Herschel Hobbs is pastor emeritus, First Church, Oklahoma City, Okla.

stopped, however, and there was no presentation of the series for several more years.

Some months back the Baptist Record Advisory Committee, the six-person body elected by the Mississippi Baptist Convention to counsel with the editor regarding content for the Baptist Record, suggested the initiation of a column for young people. In the deliberations that followed, it was felt that the column from the Radio and Television Commission, which had been reinstated, would best fit the needs that were seen. Therefore the feature, Powerline, will be running on a regular basis. We hope that our readers like it and find it to be useful to them. For the most part, it will follow a question and answer format.

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Gleaning can feed the hungry

Millions of pounds of ugly potatoes are left to rot

By Kathy Palen

WASHINGTON (BP) — The ancient concept of gleaning is making a comeback as a possible way to help alleviate domestic hunger in the United States. Gleaning is simply the gathering of grain or other produce left by the harvesters.

During a hearing on the subject, members of the Domestic Task Force of the House Select Committee on Hunger heard testimony about current gleaning projects and the need to expand such programs.

"There is nothing new about gleaning," said Rep. Tony P. Hall, D-Ohio. "It's not only ancient, but biblical."

Hall, a congressional advocate of

gleaning as a source of food for the hungry, described a major gleaning project in his state. During the project's first year, Hall said, hundreds of volunteers from 37 church, civic, food relief, and school groups donated more than 3,000 hours of time and took in almost 21 tons of food. He said his goal for this year is to double that tonnage.

Citing a General Accounting Office figure that 60 million tons of food rot in farm fields each year, Hall said, "Even if a fraction of that food could be salvaged and distributed to the needy, we would go a long way toward helping to feed the hungry of this nation."

Hall cited a number of advantages of gleaning:

- It offers an abundant source of free food that is clean and healthy.

- It requires neither massive government assistance nor bureaucracy and regulations.

- It provides people at the grassroots level an opportunity to become involved in fighting hunger and develops a sense of fellowship among participants.

- It supplies an additional tool for educating people about the problem of hunger.

Hall said state and local governments can help by passing laws to remove barriers to gleaning, such as

limiting the liability of food donors, and by offering incentives for gleaning, such as providing tax incentives for charitable contributions of food.

Other witnesses involved in organizing or implementing gleaning projects, supported Hall's testimony.

Ray A. Buchanan, co-director of the Society of St. Andrew, described a program through which his anti-hunger organization salvages potatoes that otherwise would be wasted and distributes them in 47 states and the District of Columbia. In its first four years, the project salvaged more than 53 million pounds of potatoes and yams, he said.

"There is no such thing as an ugly

potato to a mother whose children are hungry. Yet in our country, where the numbers of hungry continue to grow larger, there are literally millions of pounds of ugly potatoes being dumped to rot."

Buchanan made three recommendations for enhancing gleaning nationwide.

He recommended establishing a national clearinghouse to connect growers, gleaners and distributors; publishing a handbook to provide details on organizing gleaning and produce salvage programs; and developing an advertising campaign to encourage participation in gleaning projects.

The Second Front Page

The Baptist Record

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Thursday, August 13, 1987

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High bids may slow Gulfshore expansion

By Tim Nicholas

Planned expansion of Gulfshore Baptist Assembly may have to wait for approval at the Mississippi Baptist Convention in November because of the unexpectedly high price tag on the work.

The additional wing and increased serving capacity in the cafeteria will cost approximately \$4.1 million, according to the low bid for the work submitted by contractor Roy Anderson Jr.

Anderson's bid, along with that of seven other contractors was opened last week at Gulfshore. Anderson submitted the low bid of \$3,172,409. Add to that the cost of equipment and furnishings, professional fees, and contingencies, the total cost of the project

would range up to approximately \$4.27 million. Nearly \$200,000 has already been paid out, leaving \$4.1 million in additional costs.

Based on the bidding, the Gulfshore expansion committee will meet Aug. 21 in Jackson to formulate a recommendation to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. That meeting awaits further discussion with the low bidder concerning cost-cutting possibilities.

The reason the project may need convention approval is that the constitution calls for any project to obtain such when it would need to obtain a lien against convention-held property.

If the project had come in at under \$3.3 million, as was expected by the

architects, the cost could have been taken from the convention's fund balance which had been accruing for such a project. The fund balance consists of investment income and has paid for such projects in the past as computer installation and a new phone system at the Baptist Building.

Said Earl Kelly, executive director-treasurer of the convention board, "We hoped to build without encumbering a very large debt." He added that the fund balance has always been at the disposal of the convention board.

The unexpectedly high cost of the Gulfshore project means that another capital expenditure may need to wait until the November convention

(Continued on page 16)

Video shows viewer offering in action

"Mississippi Baptists . . . Responding" is the title of a new videotape for the state missions emphasis this fall. The 28-minute video takes the viewer to special mission points in Mississippi to talk to the people whose lives have been influenced as a direct result of the Margaret Lackey State Mission Offering.

Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union produced the videotape in cooperation with the Department of Broadcast Services, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Wilda Fancher

wrote the script and Farrell Blankenship produced and directed the videotape, with special assistance from Ashley McCaleb.

Copies of the videotape have been made available to every church through their associational director of missions. Additional copies will be available on loan from the Department of Broadcast Services.

In addition local ACTS affiliates and other cable stations around the state will show the video on the dates listed below:

City	Date	Time	Cable Channel
Bruce	Aug. 21	7 p.m.	W07BN Channel 7
	Aug. 23	5 p.m.	Cable Walco Channel 2
Cleveland	Aug. 25	6:30 p.m.	Community Cablevision
Delta ACTS Board	Aug. 27	7 p.m.	Channel 10
Hattiesburg	Sept. 7	7:30 p.m.	U.A. Cablevision
Lebanon ACTS Board	Sept. 11	4:30 p.m.	Channel 6
Hollandale	Sept. 7	7 p.m.	Channel 17
Hollandale ACTS	Sept. 9	8:30 p.m.	
Laurel	Sept. 8	8 p.m.	Comcast Cablevision
ACTS of Jones	Sept. 10	Noon	Channel 18
New Albany	Sept. 9	6 p.m.	Cablevision Channel 8
	Sept. 10	Noon	
Yazoo City	Sept. 8	7:30 p.m.	Cablevision
	Sept. 11	8:30 p.m.	Channel 10

Missionary Troy Waldron killed in Ethiopia helicopter crash

By Marty Croll

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (BP) — The business manager for the Southern Baptist mission in Ethiopia died in a helicopter crash Aug. 4 as he was flying to meet Ethiopian agricultural officials in a remote area. The pilot also was killed.

Police recovered the bodies of missionary Troy M. Waldron Jr. and Steve Bartalsky, the pilot, in a gully in sparsely populated hills near Addis Ababa about 2 p.m.

The craft had just passed over the first range of mountains it would encounter on the trip when the engine



Waldron

apparently failed, said Southern Baptist worker Ed Mason. Parts of the helicopter were strewn over a wide area, he added, and both men apparently died on impact.

Police took the bodies to Menelik Hospital in Addis Ababa, where they were identified by Mason, who acts as a liaison between government officials and Southern

Baptist efforts in the country. Both men were to be buried Aug. 6 in a joint graveside funeral service in Addis Ababa.

The wives of Waldron and Bartalsky decided to bury their husbands on Ethiopian soil as an indication of their love for the people, Mason said.

The two families attended the International Evangelical Church in Addis Ababa, where many missionaries and relief workers from outside the country maintain a close fellowship. Between 25 and 50 Ethiopian government

(Continued on page 11)



Photos by Billy Hudgens

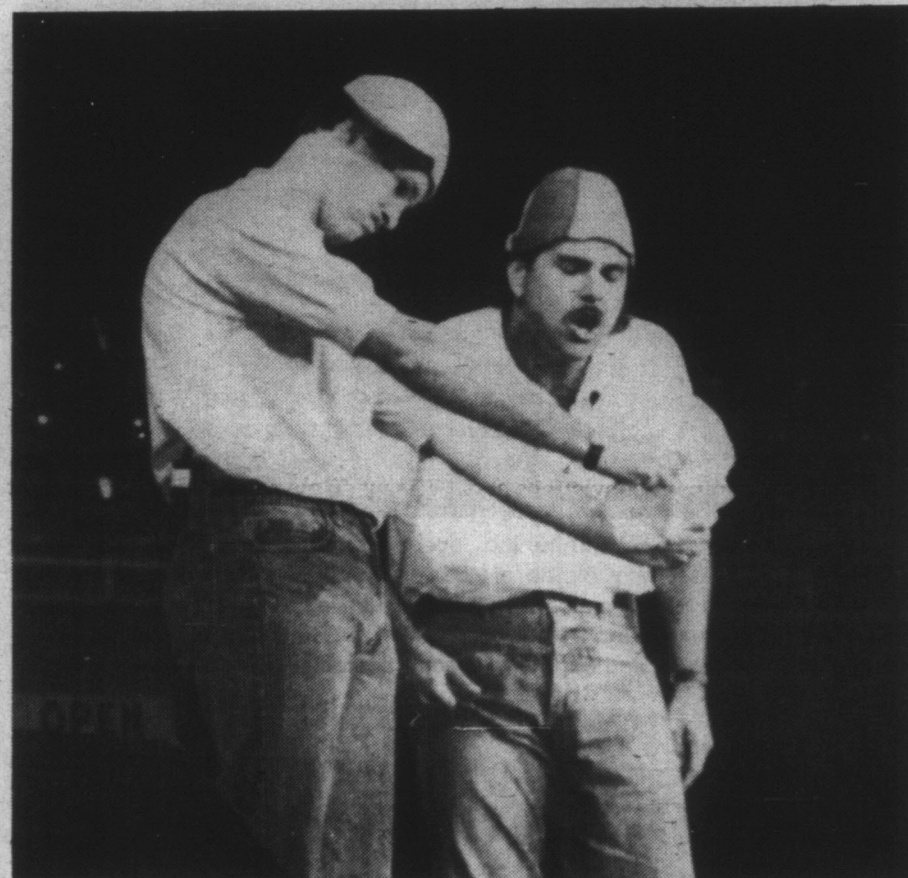
Youth Night, 1987



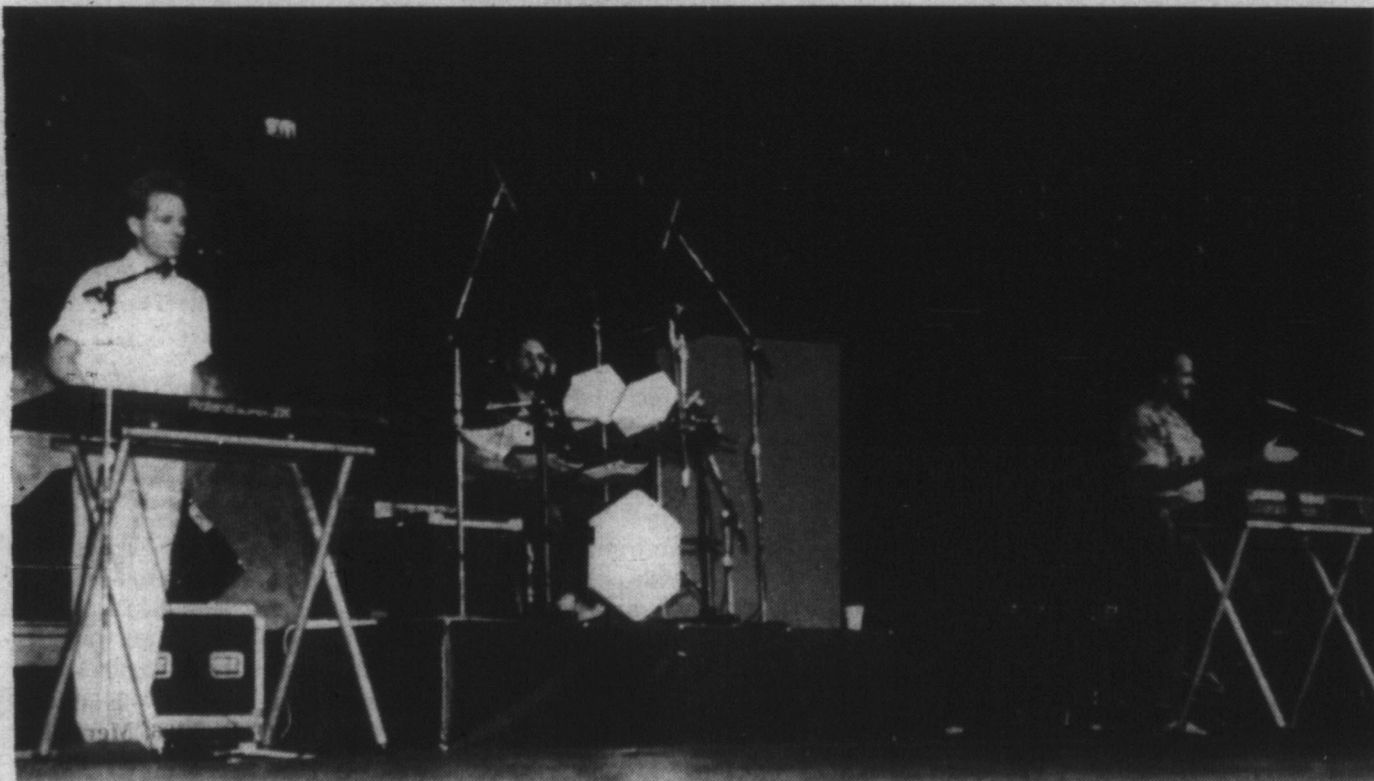
Harold Morris, featured speaker for Mississippi Baptist Youth Night, told the estimated 9,000 young people gathered at the Mississippi Coliseum in Jackson that they should let Jesus direct their lives. "Be selective in who you associate with," he said. "Never sacrifice your ideals or potential to gain acceptance with a group that is not going anywhere."



A group from Hebron Church, Meridian, declares its allegiance with tee shirts as they enter the coliseum for Youth Night.



Hicks and Cohagan, Christian funnymen, perform a sketch at Youth Night.



The music group Gabriel performs.



The group, Voices from New Albany, featured Stacy Andrews, Lady Lode Long, and Eddie Thompson.

Moore predicts SBC future for Amarillo congregation

By Terry Barone and Ken Camp

DALLAS (BP) — A former Southern Baptist Convention vice president has told his congregation that barring a drastic change in the convention's direction in the next two years, every board will be controlled by a mindset with which he cannot agree.

On July 12, for the first time Winfred Moore devoted an entire Sunday evening service at First Baptist Church of Amarillo, Texas, to addressing the convention controversy, preaching on "The SBC: Yesterday! Today! Tomorrow?"

Explaining that "the process of working for fairness in the convention brought labels I didn't think I deserved, and didn't think this church deserved," Moore said he felt he needed to bring the sermon "out of very deep convictions and probably out of self-defense" and "for the sake of my church."

Moore, who resigned from the Peace Committee June 16 shortly after the committee presented its report to the convention in St. Louis, explained he could not in good conscience remain on the committee.

He particularly found fault with recommendations five and ten which call upon Southern Baptist institutions to "build their professional staffs and faculties from those who clearly reflect such dominant convictions and beliefs held by Southern Baptists at large" and which call for the continuation of the committee for three years. "I believe all of it (the report). I believe the examples cited. But I'm not willing to use it as a hammer on the heads of any other people who have a little different interpretation of the Word of God," he said.

"I could not in good conscience remain on a policing committee, on a watchdog committee. I support the trustee system," he added.

Moore went on to say, "I accept every one of the people (on the committee). They don't believe the Bible more strongly than I believe it.

And the strange thing is they don't believe it any differently from the way I believe it. I do not agree with their methodology, and you would not either."

In reference to action recently taken by Southern Baptist Home Mission Board President Larry Lewis, Moore said, "Now folks, they can tell you that we are not headed for a creedal people if they want to, but when you take the Peace Committee report and say to a group of people this report is a mandate to us to follow the opinion expressed here, that comes as close to being creedal as I can imagine anything being."

Moore added he does not believe multitudes of convention employees will be fired, but he said he believes "the pressure is going to be so great that the integrity of many of them will not allow them to stay where they are. And for these I bleed."

Moore explained that he became involved in convention politics due to "intimidation tactics" used against him when his name was mentioned as a possible candidate for the presidency of the Baptist General Convention of Texas in 1983. The intimidation continued after his election in subsequent involvement in the SBC controversy, he said.

He mentioned that within one week's time, he received a number of visits, phone calls and letters ques-

tioning his commitment to the infallibility of Scripture.

Several of those who approached Moore said they had been told, "If you move to Amarillo, you don't want to join First Baptist Church because the preacher doesn't believe the Bible. He is a liberal."

Moore said he "looked back to the sermons I preached long before the controversy over inerrancy ever started — sermons I preached about the Bible — and I've come to the conclusion that I believe far more of it than they do. I've tried my best to say that, and I've tried my best to preach that throughout the years.

"That kind of gossip does not do the church any good at all," he added.

The message was brought, Moore said, because of First Baptist's "investment" in the SBC through Cooperative Program unified budget and mission gifts and through sending out "missionaries, pastors, educational directors, music ministers and directors of missions."

Moore reported that church records show that First Baptist has given more than \$9.2 million through the Cooperative Program and more than \$19.9 million to all mission causes from January 1960 through June 1987. Moore became pastor of the church in December 1959.

Saying he doesn't think the SBC will split, Moore encouraged his congregation to pray. "I do believe we need to pray much for the convention.

And we need to learn what it means to truly love one another, to love the people with whom we disagree."

Barone and Camp write for Texas Baptists.

Merritt memorial gifts to feed church fund

INTERLAKEN, SWITZERLAND

— The Council of the European Baptist Convention, in its July meeting here, voted to establish a "Church Building Endowment Fund." The fund will seek to build a corpus of invested money, the interest from which will then be used for the purchase or construction of EBC church buildings.

"The fund is needed," explained General Secretary John Merritt, "because only 20 percent of the 56 EBC churches own their own buildings. Sixteen churches share facilities with national churches. Most of the others rent commercial property, often paying extraordinarily high rent." Merritt is a native of Hattiesburg.

The initial funds available to set up the CBEF came from memorial gifts donated in honor of the Merritts' son, Mark Merritt, who died in a May 2 auto accident in Ketchikan, Alaska. These funds now exceed US \$8,000.

The Council also defined possible sources which will feed the CBEF: the EBC budget itself, grants from the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, partnership involvements between SBC state conventions, private gifts, contributions from churches with particular ties with EBC churches, provisions in wills, and memorial gifts similar to the Mark Merritt fund. The CBEF is expected to provide long-term benefits to EBC churches, and funds would not be available to the churches

for several years.

"We are about 100 years late in establishing international English-speaking Baptist churches in major European cities," lamented Secretary Merritt. "The Anglicans led the way a century ago in purchasing valuable property and establishing churches in many European cities."

Merritt explained that the idea for the CBEF did not develop as a result of his son Mark's tragic death. As a matter of fact, the June-July issue of Highlights, the EBC newsjournal, carries an article which was written prior to May 2 in which he states, "We must develop a much greater financial base in order to assist churches in acquiring adequate buildings."

"This is not a new vision," Merritt explained, referring to his article. "It has been rather a developing vision of EBC leadership over many years. Long before Mark's death the establishment of a church building fund was a long-time goal in EBC's development process."

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Crews of Golden Gate resigns Peace Committee

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP) — William O. Crews, president of Golden Gate Seminary here, has resigned from the Southern Baptist Convention Peace Committee.

Crews resigned in mid-July in a letter to Charles Fuller, chairman of the 22-member group that was elected in 1985 to discover the sources of the controversy in the SBC, and to make findings and recommendations on ways to bring reconciliation.

The committee made its final report at the 1987 annual meeting of the SBC in St. Louis but was continued for up to three years in order to monitor the response of the 20 national agencies to the report and its 10 recommendations.

"I had fully expected that the (Peace) Committee would be dismissed following the report," Crews wrote to Fuller. "However, with its continuance, I have had to weigh my position as a member of the committee and my responsibilities as president of Golden Gate Seminary."

When the committee was formed in 1985, Crews was pastor of Magnolia Avenue Baptist Church in Riverside, Calif. He was elected president of Golden Gate Seminary Oct. 13, 1986,

but was asked to remain as a member of the Peace Committee until it completed its final report.

"With the extension of up to three more years, the Peace Committee entered a new stage," Crews told Baptist Press. "I feel that both the Peace Committee and Golden Gate Seminary will be better served if I resign."

Crews told Fuller he has "absolutely no regret" that he continued in his dual role as committee member and agency executive during the final months of the Peace Committee's work. "However, I do have some serious questions about my continuing, now that the committee has a somewhat different assignment."

He is the third original member of the Peace Committee to resign. In October of 1986, Cecil Sherman, pastor of Broadway Baptist Church of Fort Worth, Texas, resigned in disagreement over the direction of the committee.

Following the report of the committee at the 1987 SBC, W. Winfred Moore, pastor of First Baptist Church of Amarillo, Texas, resigned in disagreement with the continuation of the committee.

Crews, however, specified: "I want it to be clear that I am not unhappy with the work of the committee, nor its continuation. I simply feel that it would be in the best interest of my position as president of Golden Gate to relinquish my place on the committee."

Under the action that created the

Peace Committee, the SBC Executive Committee is required to elect replacements for people who leave the committee. Following Sherman's resignation, the Executive Committee named Peter James Flamming, pastor of First Baptist Church of Richmond, Va., to fill out the term.

700 Baptist Men meet in Wales

CARDIFF, WALES — Attendance at the 4th World Conference of Baptist Men reached 700 at the final session with men from at least 34 countries participating, including 10 African and six American nations.

China, the USSR, Indonesia, Bangladesh, and many others were also represented. Former astronaut James Irwin, one of the principal speakers for the conference, told his nearly all-male audience that the "happiest moment" of his life had come 30 years before when he gave his life to Christ. Other speakers includ-

ed G. Noel Vose, president of the Baptist World Alliance, and Glen Garfield Williams, former general secretary of the Conference of European Churches.

The Conference approved a motion that the BWA Men's Department, which sponsored the Welsh event, assume the responsibility for raising the Baptist-half of the cost for the printing of 100,000 Bibles in Russian. The Bibles will be shipped legally into the Soviet Union in 1988 by agreement with the USSR government.

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HMB directors approve organizational study

By Sherri Brown

ATLANTA (BP) — A strategy planning task force to review ways to best reach America for Christ and a new staff position to coordinate abortion alternatives were approved by directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board during their July meeting.

The task force will be formed to review the Home Mission Board's organizational structure and to develop strategy to best reach the goals and objectives of the board.

"We will first review the current purpose and objectives of the Home Mission Board, then we will examine the organizational structure in respect to our major thrusts of church planting and evangelism, in keeping with Bold Mission Thrust," explained HMB President Larry Lewis after his first full board meeting since his election in April.

The group will consist of "about 20 people, including missiologists, church growth specialists, evangelists, and some HMB personnel," Lewis said.

Most will be Southern Baptists, although Lewis said he may name a few members outside the denomination.

Lewis expects the first meeting to occur in early fall. The committee will function for a year, with any major reorganization to occur after its final report is presented.

The board also voted to establish a coordinator for ministries related to alternatives to abortion. The new position is in response to the Southern Baptist Convention resolution approved in St. Louis that encouraged "the Home Mission Board to train churches for ministry in crisis pregnancy centers and residential care homes for pregnant women and children."

During his opening remarks, Lewis said, "It is not the purview of the Home Mission Board to speak on the morality and ethics of the abortion issue, but it is our responsibility to minister to those who are affected by it, born and unborn."

Part of the position description includes assisting state Baptist conventions, associations, and churches in establishing counseling clinics that will provide alternatives to abortion.

The board also voted to provide \$60,000 a year for five years to assist five state conventions in the Northeast — New York, New England, Pennsylvania/South Jersey, Maryland-Delaware, and the District of Columbia — to establish a ministry training center for pastors and mission personnel.

As long as Home Mission Board funds are used, the board annually will review the work to assure evangelism and mission objectives are being met.

They also will approve personnel chosen to direct the program. Board members also discussed requesting additional funds from the SBC Executive Committee.

A lot of people think 25 percent of (national) Cooperative Program funds go to the Home Mission Board and 50 percent to the Foreign Mission

Board. But that figure has eroded away to less than 20 percent for the Home Mission Board," said Ralph Smith of Austin, Texas.

The board, however, took no action, referring the matter to its administrative committee.

Clark Hutchinson, chairman of the board from Marietta, Ga., told board members he had requested their churches' Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for home missions figures from the past two years.

Hutchinson admonished board members to be aware of the money their churches give to the annual offering: "We have a responsibility regarding our locale. I don't believe we are doing all we can do. I want you to take this personally."

In other business, the board voted to delete the position of director of financial resources, approved in 1983, which never was filled. Funds allocated for that position were made available for a new position — associate director of the associational missions department in the evangelism section. The new position was approved in order to service the needs of the new emphasis on winning the cities to Christ.

The board also approved the formation of a marketing department, separating its function from the promotion department.

Three staff members were promoted and two new staff members were approved.

Fermin A. Whittaker, for 10 years director of the ethnic church growth department, was elected regional coordinator in the planning section.

Whittaker, a naturalized U.S. citizen since 1967, is a product of home mission work in his native Panama.

Robert T. Mills, assistant director of Mission Service Corps since 1981, was elected MSC director.

J. Leon Boyd, associate director of the metropolitan missions department since 1984, was elected director of the rural-urban missions department.

John Mark Clifton, church starter strategist for Roswell Baptist Association in Roswell, Ga., was elected associate director of the church starting department.

Paul Stephenson, director/manager of chaplaincy at Scottsdale Memorial Hospital, in Scottsdale, Ariz., was elected director of hospital chaplaincy.

The board also approved for appointment four missionaries and six missionary associates. Also approved were 12 church planter apprentices, 29 mission pastors and nine mission pastor interns.

Sherri Brown writes for the HMB.

A cool head may sometimes keep a person out of trouble, but more often it's cold feet.

Disappointment should always be taken as a stimulant, and never viewed as a discouragement — C. B. Newcomb

Seminary names institute for Paul Adkins

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP) — Southern Baptist Home Mission Board president Larry Lewis affirmed the role of Baptist centers in ministering to the nation's poor while urging center directors to go out into the highways and hedges to reach people for Christ.

Lewis confirmed the board's ongoing support of the ministry during a celebration of the 75th anniversary of the first Baptist center. The three-day conference, which attracted nearly 250 center directors, was at the Southern Seminary campus here.

The first center was founded by Maud Reynolds McClure, principal of the Woman's Missionary Union Training School in Louisville, who launched the downtown ministry in 1912.

Lewis lamented the polarization between social ministry and evangelism that he said often limits the effectiveness of the centers: "It would seem to me that even the most elementary study of the Scriptures and even the most superficial study of the life of our Lord would have to say it cannot be an 'either or' situation. There can be no evangelism that is not concerned about ministry, because evangelism that concentrates on a soul as if it were a part of someone's anatomy is a superficial, sham evangelism and will never really redeem. And a ministry that is not redemptive is not complete."

At the meeting, the seminary named its National Institute for Research and Training in Church Social Work in honor of social ministries pioneer Paul Adkins. The institute is administered through the Carver School of Church Social Work at the seminary.

Adkins, the first director of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's Christian social ministries department, accepted the honor during the meeting.

Gulfshore . . .

(Continued from page 3)

meeting. A new Baptist student center at Ole Miss, costing about a half million dollars, may need to be placed in a package for approval with the Gulfshore funding in November.

Kelly said the convention board will be able to amortize its current debts by the middle of 1988 and be in a position to amortize any necessary loan without increasing budgetary items in the 1988 budget or in future years. The 1988 budget, up for approval by the convention board and the convention, has a capital needs allotment of \$356,000, which, Kelly says, would be enough for amortization of any new debts.

The Gulfshore project calls for an addition of 18-two bed rooms, two more efficiencies, and 16 bunk rooms, and an additional serving line and a doubling of seating capacity in the cafeteria.

An additional project adding a small group conference center that would serve as housing for the summer staff at Gulfshore and costing approximately \$1 million, will likely be placed on hold indefinitely, according to Kelly.

In Mozambique

House report says civil strife cause of famine

By Kathy Palen

WASHINGTON (BP) — Civil strife, not drought, is the major cause of the severe famine plaguing the southern African country of Mozambique, stated a report released by the House Select Committee on Hunger. Mozambique's problems have targeted it for special attention from Southern Baptists' hunger relief programs.

Mozambique faces a famine of historic proportions, according to the report, with about one-third of the nation's population in danger of acute malnutrition or starvation. The primary cause of the crisis, the report continued, is terrorist activity by RENAMO, the anti-government insurgency force within Mozambique. Previously, most studies blamed drought as the main cause of the famine.

The House committee report specifically pointed to RENAMO attacks on peasant farmers, food production and distribution systems, and social services. Those attacks, according to the report, have resulted in

lower levels of primary health care, decreased primary school attendance, declining food production, and increased malnutrition and starvation.

In addition to raiding food production and food relief operations, RENAMO forces have destroyed 42 percent of the country's health posts, caused the destruction or abandonment of 40 percent of the country's primary schools, and attacked and killed local health and relief workers, the report stated. It also charged insurgency forces with cutting main transportation arteries inside Mozambique, thus making distribution of food difficult or impossible in many regions.

Describing conditions within Mozambique as "desperate," the report said 1.8 million people have been internally displaced and 420,000 have become refugees in bordering countries. According to the report, the country has the highest infant mor-

(Continued on page 13)



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HMB directors establish new doctrinal guidelines

By Dan Martin

ATLANTA (BP) — Policies governing the employment of elected staff members and missionaries were established during the July 29 meeting of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board here.

The new policies are part of a "Resolution of Response to Southern Baptist Convention Action Approving the Peace Committee Report," approved without discussion and only a few "no" votes.

In the resolution, directors "instruct our administration to review the theological positions of our present professional staff and appointed missionaries to assure their theological stance is in harmony with and not in any way contrary to the Baptist Faith and Message statement."

The directors also "instruct our administration to assure that in the future we only employ professional staff and appoint missionaries whose theological positions 'clearly reflect the dominant convictions and beliefs held by Southern Baptist at large' as illustrated in the findings section of the committee report."

HMB directors, in taking the action, become the first SBC agency to make official response to the report of the Peace Committee, adopted during the 1987 annual meeting of the SBC.

The Peace Committee, created in 1985 and charged with discovering the sources of controversy in the convention and making findings and recommendations of ways to bring about reconciliation, reported it discovered the source of the controversy is primarily theological differences. It said, however, "most Southern Baptists" believe in direct creation of man, the supernatural nature of the miracles in the Bible, the historical accuracy of the Bible and the stated authorship of the books of the Bible.

It called on trustees of the six SBC theological seminaries to determine the theological positions of staff members and on all SBC institutions to build professional staffs from those people who clearly reflect the dominant theological position of Southern Baptists at large.

Although the recommendation to review the theological position of staff members appeared directed at the seminaries, the HMB action extends the action to include its 138 elected staffers.

Larry Lewis, the newly elected HMB-president, praised the work of the Peace Committee, and said: "It speaks well of the work of this committee that both the findings and the recommendations were approved by the convention in annual session without amendment and with a strong 90-plus percent vote. Apparently our constituency of Baptist people agree with the findings and overwhelmingly approve the several recommendations. I take this as a clear mandate.

"I believe it behooves each and every agency and institution of our convention to cooperate fully with the Peace Committee and with our convention in its efforts to restore harmony to our denomination. We must stand ready and willing to do

everything within our power to implement these simple recommendations. Let us lead the way in assuring our constituency that we intend to do everything within our ability to comply with each and every recommendation."

He added if every one of the 20 national agencies would comply and cooperate with the Peace Committee report: "There will be peace in the valley again. To fail to do so would be an affront and something of an insult to the convention."

In an interview following the board meeting, Lewis said he was not trying to set the agenda for other national agencies or to exhort them to follow suit: "Each agency must deal with this in the way they feel proper and best. My remarks are more of a statement of my own opinion, but I feel if we are seeking peace seriously in our convention we should cooperate and comply. If we want the war to continue and the strife to go on, then the way to do that is to refuse to cooperate and to refuse to comply."

He added he "is sorry" his remark concerning administrators and trustees published in a news story June 29 "were misinterpreted and misunderstood."

In that story, Lewis said he believed trustees and administrators who were not responsive to the wishes of the convention "will be replaced."

"I never meant to suggest that I was going to make any kind of effort to have trustees replaced. I have no authority to do that," he said. "There is no veiled threat, but simply an observation that if a board does not respond to an exact and explicit mandate, then the convention will replace those trustees."

"It is my observation that that is what has been happening across the past few years. There has been a general perception that the agencies were not responsive so the convention has begun the process of replacing those trustees."

Lewis also clarified his position on the continued employment of HMB elected staffers: "I have never said I was going to replace any staff member. I simply have said we are going to ask them to reaffirm that which they have affirmed already, their belief in the Baptist Faith and Message statement."

During the board meeting, directors were given a copy of a form used by prospective staff members for at least the past six years. The form, titled "Belief Statement," asks prospective elected staffers nine theological or doctrinal questions, including belief about God, the inspiration of the Bible, personal salvation, the person's own conversion experience, call to Christian service, the church, participation in a local congregation, and relationships with other Christians and non-Christians.

Lewis added staff members have been asked to affirm the Baptist Faith and Message Statement since 1976.

In discussing how the instructions of directors will be implemented in regard to checking the theological

positions of current staff members and appointed missionaries, Lewis said he has decided on an approach concerning staff but is "still working on the logistics of dealing with the missionaries."

"The staff members are primarily employees of the board, but the missionaries often have major funding that comes from others, and we have to work out a system with the state conventions. It would be premature to suggest any approach to missionaries until we have had an opportunity to meet with state convention people in September."

For employed staff, however, Lewis said he will "send a copy of the Baptist Faith and Message Statement to each staff member with a cover letter.

We will simply ask them to study and review the statement and if they have any problems endorsing or concurring with any part, to contact me and we will discuss it. If we do not hear from them, we will assume they are in agreement."

He added if any staffer has a "little problem" with the statement, it does not mean the person will be terminated. "If, on the other hand, somebody has serious problems about, say, the divinity of Christ, especially if that person is in a position with a great deal of exposure, then we would be very concerned."

In such a case, Lewis said, he "can see a possible termination." He added, however, that as far as current staff is concerned, he will "grandfather" them in, and not require that they adhere to "any particular interpretation" of the doctrinal statement. "We are just asking them to reaffirm their commitment to the statement," he said.

However, he noted, "When we talk about hiring future employees, or promoting present employees, it will be a different policy" and will include "asking them what they believe about some basic, fundamental doctrines of our faith."

He said asking denominational employees about their doctrinal beliefs is not unusual: "It seems it is the content rather than the process which is controversial. Affirming a statement of faith is a historic process in Southern Baptist life. What is unprecedented is asking them in that process whether they believe the Bible is without error."

He said each new employee or person up for appointment will be asked the four questions from the Peace Committee: direct creation, the miracles, the historical narratives and the stated authorship of books of the Bible. "We may even read them to the candidates," he said.

Another issue not included in the Peace Committee findings also will be included in the questions, Lewis said: "We will be asking them to affirm that Jesus was the virgin-born Son of God, that he died on the cross for our sins, that he rose bodily from the dead, that he ascended physically into heaven, and that he literally and physically will be coming again."

Dan Martin is BP news editor.

Thursday, August 13, 1987

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7

Memphis hospital performs transplant for Parkinson's

MEMPHIS — The first adrenal transplant to combat Parkinson's Disease in the Mid-South was performed Aug. 6 at Baptist Memorial Hospital.

Physicians attached a portion of the adrenal gland to the brain of Bobby William Hill, 46, of Memphis to produce the much needed dopamine.

At a news conference, Dr. James T. Robertson the neurosurgeon, said the three hour, fifteen minute operation went smoothly. He classified the patient's condition as serious.

The patient will remain in an intensive care room for observation for several days but could leave the hospital within 10 days if there are no complications, the physician said.

Symptoms of Parkinson's Disease include severe involuntary shaking or rigidity and speech difficulties.

Fewer than 60 surgeries for Parkinson's Disease have been performed in the world, almost 20 in the United States without loss of life, Robertson said.

Concentrating on only the most difficult cases, Robertson said he was convinced "this may be a major breakthrough in the treatment of Parkinsonism. If this works, it could become a common place treatment for certain types of Parkinsonism."

While patients shouldn't expect to be cured, they can hope for a more normal life, Robertson said.

John Wade, retired pastor, is honored

John Wade, retired minister living in Gulfport, was honored Aug. 2 by Pass Road Church, Gulfport, for his 13 years as pastor there.

Wade's pastorate was from 1957 until 1970. He later served in Kentucky for seven years and has been retired for about three years. He now serves as interim pastor of Bond Church in Bond.

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Faces And Places

by anne washburn mcwilliams

The Webbs

A week or so ago I got a letter from Leila Mae Webb of Pascagoula, whom I last saw in Munich, Germany, when she and her husband, Allen, were serving in volunteer missions there for a year. Now they are back in North Dakota, where he had been interim pastor once before after retiring as Jackson County director of missions.

Their North Dakota address is c/o Calvary Southern Baptist Church, Route 1, Box 88, Emerado, North Dakota 58228.

She said she had told Allen that when it got cold she was returning to Mississippi — and that might be soon, for it was 46 that July day! That's hard to believe in Jackson right now, with the heat index at 111.

She said, "Last night at a fellowship I asked a sweet, timid little girl what her job was at the SAC Base, and she said, 'Guarding the missile site when

they are working at the site.' I was shocked because her boy friend works at the chapel as chaplain's assistant. She very softly said, 'I'm why you aren't speaking Russian,' and I could see her guarding the missile site with her M-16!

"Allen really enjoys preaching here, and the 41 families still here when we were here before seem glad we're back; 143 other families have been added since we were here two years ago, though."

"The Writer"

Several have written to ask the address of the magazine, *The Writer*, which I mentioned in a column several weeks ago. It is 8 Arlington St., Boston, MA 02116.

British return to El Salvador

EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND — British Baptists will return to El Salvador to work with the Baptist Association there. The General Committee meeting here approved a report of Angus MacNeill, BMS Overseas Secretary, regarding the possibility of involving British Baptists in the Central American country.

The General Committee also agreed to send David Mee there as pastor. Mee is pastor of the Darkhouse Baptist Church, Coseley.

Conference cancelled

The fourth Senior Adult Conference at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, scheduled for Aug. 18 to 22, has been cancelled, according to Clark Hensley, senior adult consultant for the Mississippi Baptist Church Training Department.

The reason for the cancellation, Hensley said, was lack of registration. By Aug. 7 the registration total was 62. That was the date of the cancellation.

An item in the Aug. 6 *Baptist Record* urging additional registration should be ignored. Money sent toward payment of registration fees will be refunded, Hensley said.

Devotional

Discovering our gift of giving

By Wayne G. Berry

What did Jesus say about giving? "He who has two coats, let him share with him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise" (Luke 3:11, RSV).



Berry

Jesus also said, "So when you give something to a needy person, do not make a big show of it as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets. They do it so that people will praise them. When you help a needy person, do it in such a way that even your closest friend will not know about it, but it will be a private matter." Jesus said, "And your Father, who sees what you do in private, will reward you" (Matt. 6:1-4, TEV). The love of God will motivate us to give in the right way.

Paul speaks of this gift of giving in Romans 12:8, "He that giveth, let him do it with simplicity." The presence of this gift of giving is characterized by a special ability and desire to give liberally and cheerfully to others.

Do you have the gift of giving? Following are some general indicators of how the gift may work in a person's life:

1. Desiring to give generously to worthwhile projects and ministries.
2. Willing to share one's possessions with persons in need.
3. Experiencing joy in meeting needs through sharing one's possessions.
4. Having a strong sense of stewardship based on the recognition of God's ownership of all things.
5. Feeling a deep sense of fulfillment in supporting the ministry of others.

Are you a giver or getter? "It is better to give than to receive."

Wayne G. Berry is pastor, Calvary, Greenwood.

Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor must be limited to 300 words and the editor reserves the right to trim those that are longer. Editorial prerogatives must be reserved under all circumstances, and the opinions of the letter writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff of the Baptist Record. Only signed letters will be used, but the writer may request that his name be withheld.

The Gambia needs dentist

Editor:

We are Southern Baptist missionaries serving in the Gambia, West Africa. We are writing to you with an urgent prayer request, which we hope you will share with your readers.

The Gambia Baptist Mission opened work in The Gambia in July 1982. At that time, personnel requests were made and subsequently advertised by the Foreign Mission Board. The request for a career/associate dentist has been on the files and actively advertised for the past 4½ years (at least!) And yet, NO DENTIST. The Gambia Baptist Mission has operated on faith: the request for personnel was made, monies granted, and construction completed on what will be the best equipped dental facility in the country; and dental services begun by a one-year volunteer. We don't believe God hasn't called someone; rather, we believe God's chosen one isn't responding. We are, therefore, enlisting your help, and that of your readers, as prayers. The situation has become serious. Our credibility is being seriously hindered by this situation in the eyes of the government. "Why can't you get a dentist over here?" "Why didn't you 'post' someone before the volunteer left?" "My mouth is killing me. Why won't you help me?" "The building of the dental clinic was just a ploy to get your 'religion' started — you never had any intention of establishing an operative dental facility." These are remarks we've heard from local residents to government officials.

Please pray with us. And we would

appreciate it if you would pass this along to your readers. If you know of anyone interested in fulfilling this specific request (career/associate missionary or volunteer), have them contact the Foreign Mission Board at the following address:

Foreign Mission Board

Box 6767

Richmond, VA 23230

or call toll-free: 800/325-6595

Thank you for your support and assistance regarding this urgent matter of a dentist for the Baptist Dental Clinic in Farafenni, The Gambia, West Africa.

Chris and Karen Austin

Serving in The Gambia

Prayer for pastors

Editor:

In reference to the recent letters about "dead churches," there is a phenomenon called the self-fulfilling prophecy. If a person says a child is bad and acts like a child is bad, eventually other people will believe the child is bad and the child will be bad.

This can be applied to our churches. If a member says his church is dead and acts like his church is dead, eventually other people will believe the church is dead; and, before we know it, the church will be dead.

All church members should guard what they say with their mouths and what their actions say, or they may be the cause of their church's death.

Furthermore, when a person reaches the point that he cannot lift his pastor's name in prayer when asking God's blessings on everyone and everything else, it's time for that per-

son to find a church where he can at least pray for the pastor. God sends us the pastor he wants us to have (Jeremiah 3:15), and it's our duty to pray for him. We should pray daily for our pastor; our church; and, most of all, for the forgiveness of our own sins.

Mrs. Linda Budinich

Ocean Springs

Christian schools

Editor:

This past year we pulled our children from the local government-run school for various reasons, including sub-standard curriculum, peer pressure, and lack of classroom discipline. The Christian school into which we placed our children has proved a great blessing. Because of the dress code, peer pressure has been greatly reduced. Because of the small classes, our children have received much personal attention; and teachers have been able to maintain discipline. In the area of academics, the curriculum used by this school is more demanding than that of the public schools; and God takes first place in it. The children have memorized quite a few verses of scripture. Teachers and administrators have upheld the values we try to instill at home. Best of all, our daughter made her profession of faith in Jesus at school.

We knew that we would have problems with this. Foremost of our concerns was being able to pay the tuition and book fees. We are a single-income family, and my small salary at William Carey College leaves no room for luxuries. Yet we paid all our creditors, including the school, on time, and are debt free.

We do not mean for our criticism to offend the many dedicated Baptist

teachers and administrators who provide excellent service in the public schools. The problems we see in public education are not their fault, since most of their decisions are made by bureaucrats and judges. In fact, if it weren't for the dedication of these Christian brothers and sisters, the government schools would be far worse.

Our nation could be much richer if more schools were established for the glory of our Lord. Perhaps some of our Baptist teachers and administrators could be challenged to band together and form more Christian schools. We feel sure that God would bless them as He has blessed us.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Holt

Hattiesburg

Appreciation for opportunity

Editor:

With the completion of my first year of service as professor and head of the Department of Religion and Philosophy at Mississippi College, please let me use this method of expressing my deepest gratitude to Mississippi Baptists and to the college for this great privilege.

Having served in the past as a trustee of the college and being the father of an alumnus, I have been keenly aware of the high quality of education and the wonderful Christian spirit to be found at Mississippi College. But now that it is my privilege to be a part of the college family, my appreciation of the college has been deepened and enhanced.

I have found the president, the vice-presidents, the deans, and the faculty and staff to be genuinely hospitable and helpful. But above all else, I have

been thrilled by the spirit of kindness, the courtesy, and the response of the students.

John G. McCall

Clinton

Who was right?

Editor:

I commend you for the issues you raised in the editorial entitled "What if I'm Wrong?" The fears you expressed are already becoming a reality. Recent letters to you and the article entitled "Home Mission Board tightens hiring policies on divorce, glossolalia" (the 8/6/87 issue) constitute the evidence.

This move toward more rigid doctrinal guidelines is rooted in two practices: 1) giving lip service to the historic Baptist principles of freedom of conscience and the resulting diversity, but actually denying them by defining the concepts in ways that betray their historic meanings. For example, one writer asserted that people should probe or investigate intensely but that they not do so with "preconceived and problematic probing devices" and that their conclusions not be based on "(leftist) probing presuppositions." The phrases are pretty vague, but my guess is that they mean "don't study with preconceptions different from mine and don't come to any conclusions different from mine." 2) Equating the word (truth) of God to an "unchangeable interpretation" of the Bible. An example is the Home Mission Board's positions on divorce and glossolalia. The board will restrict appointment of divorcees because the Bible says "let him be the husband of one wife." It also will restrict employment of people who speak in tongues even though the Bible says "don't for-

(Continued on page 13)

WELCOME TO THE CONGREGATIONAL SOUND OF THE 21ST CENTURY



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For more than 120 years Christians have been inspired and uplifted while singing the songs written by Fanny J. Crosby. This famous, blind hymn writer was born on March 24, 1820. Shortly after her birth a country doctor mistakenly applied medication to her eyes and she became blind for the rest of her ninety-five years. It is no wonder that her hymns are filled with references to light, sight, brightness and tears.

She wrote for many composers, but William H. Doane was the man who set so many of her poems to music. In 1868, Mr. Doane came to her requesting that she write a hymn on the subject of being safe with Jesus. While he waited Miss Crosby wrote a complete poem in less than half an hour. This poem became her first nationally successful song "Safe In the Arms of Jesus." Even today this lady's song titles read like a hit parade of religious music. Tillit S. Teddlie called her third verse of "Rescue the Perishing" the best verse ever written. Although she did not begin her hymn writing career until after the age of forty, she produced more than eight thousand hymns. Miss Crosby passed away on February 12, 1915. William H. Doane died on December 24th of the same year.

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- A WONDERFUL SAVIOR
- JESUS IS TENDERLY CALLING
- I AM THINE, OH LORD
- HIDE ME, OH MY SAVIOR
- JESUS, KEEP ME NEAR THE CROSS
- TO THE WORK
- RESCUE THE PERISHING
- TO GOD BE THE GLORY
- CLOSE TO THEE
- PASS ME NOT
- HOLD THOU MY HAND
- TAKE THE WORLD, BUT GIVE ME JESUS



SIDE II

- I SHALL KNOW HIM
- REDEEMED
- WILL YOU COME?
- 'TIS THE BLESSED HOUR OF PRAYER
- WILL JESUS FIND US WATCHING?
- PRAISE HIM! PRAISE HIM!
- TELL ME THE STORY OF JESUS
- THOUGH YOUR SINS BE AS SCARLET
- SAFE IN THE ARMS OF JESUS
- THE HALF I CANNOT TELL
- SAVIOR, MORE THAN LIFE TO ME
- WELCOME FOR ME
- SPEED AWAY
- SOMEDAY THE SILVER CORD WILL BREAK

tennessee ernie ford

I truly believe that this album by Ray Walker will enrich your life. To count Ray as one of my friends is very meaningful to me. I have had the pleasure of working with Ray on several different occasions, since he is the bass with The Jordanaires.

This special commemorative recording consists of a double album — on one cassette tape — containing volumes I and II of our new good night congregational singing series. This special introductory offer, a \$13.96 value, is priced at only \$8.95. Be one of the first in your congregation to have one by completing the order form below. To hear it is an experience you will want to share with others.

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What to do about nosy old lady?

SOUTHERN BAPTIST RADIO-TV COMMISSION / FORT WORTH, TX 76180

QUESTION

There's an old lady who lives next door to me who's the nosiest thing you ever saw. She watches who comes and goes, and she's always yelling if anybody gets on her lawn. But if you're out in the yard, she comes and talks your head off. What can I do about her?

ANSWER

It sounds as if your approach so far has been, "What can I do to change her?" The answer is: "Probably nothing." None of us has the power to change another person. All we can do is to make sure our own actions are kind and reasonable. This is particularly true in relating to the elderly. They may have habits and attitudes which relate back to their own

childhood, but they are trying desperately to live in a world which is now very different and — for them — very strange.

Understanding is one key to relating to your neighbor. Perhaps she is very lonely. If you take the initiative to visit with her occasionally and get to know her, she may be less curious and meddlesome. Show an interest in her, by talking with her or even doing some little service for her, such as driving her to the store or trimming shrubs. You might interview her for a school project, and you may even find that she has some special abilities which she might be able to share with you and your family.

In other words, try Abraham Lincoln's method for getting rid of enemies — by turning them into friends!

Key Leader Seminar set for Sept. 3

"Shared Ministry" is the topic for a Key Leader Seminar set for Sept. 3 at the Baptist Building in Jackson. The focus, according to Julius Thompson, coordinator of the seminar, is on healthy relationships and partnership in ministry.

The meeting, which takes place 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., is designed

for pastors and other church staffers, deacons, and church council members.

Principal speaker will be Joe Stacker, director of the Church Administration Department of the Sunday School Board.

The study course book Stacker will be teaching is "Shared Ministry: A Journey Toward Togetherness in Ministry," written by Stacker and Bruce Grubbs.

There is a \$10 fee to cover the cost of the book and lunch.

Pre-registration is necessary and must be received by Thompson's office no later than Aug. 28. Write Thompson at Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205. Make checks payable to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Meadowview to honor pastor on 10th year

Meadowview Church, Starkville, is honoring its pastor, L. J. Brewer, Sr., and his wife, Shelby, on Aug. 16, celebrating their tenth anniversary at the church.

Brewer is a graduate of Mississippi College and received a Th.M. degree from New Orleans Seminary. He has served as pastor of churches in Mississippi, Louisiana, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts. He has served as president of the Baptist General Association of New England.

Brewer is one of forty bi-vocational ministers throughout the United States invited twice to form a strategy to organize a fellowship to enhance bold missions. Also he is responsible for the newly built couples cabin, a 20 room, hotel-style cabin, at Dorroh Lake Baptist Assembly, Bellefontaine. This cabin is used for adult retreats, primarily designed for couples during marriage and family enrichment retreats.

He is married to the former Shelby Jean Thompson of Starkville; they are the parents of two sons, Leroy and Frank.

Senior Adult Corner

Area Seniors to host confab

Jayess Baptist Church will host the annual senior adult leadership conference for the south-central area that includes Lawrence, Jefferson Davis, Covington, Walthall, and Marion Counties.

Tom Myers, Prentiss, area consultant, will be in charge of the program with the theme, "Choosing a Better Way." Billy Johnson of Dixie Church, Hattiesburg, and area senior adult consultant, will serve as a resource

person. Wayne Spencer, pastor, Shiloh Church, Sontag, will have program responsibility.

The program will begin at 10 a.m. and adjourn at 2 p.m. with lunch served at the church.

Reservations should be made by calling the local director of missions or Tom Myers at (601) 702-2620 or by writing him at P. O. Box 297, Prentiss 39474. The registration fee is \$1 including lunch.

Coffin moving to peace group

NEW YORK, N.Y. (EP) — William Sloane Coffin, best known for his anti-war activism in the 1960s, announced July 19 that he is resigning as pastor of Riverside Church in New York to head a new national peace group.

In his weekly sermon, Coffin told parishioners he would leave at the end of this year to become president of

Sane-Freeze, which will be formed by the merger of two Washington-based groups, the Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy, and the Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign. The new organization will deal with social problems such as homelessness and poverty, as well as with defense policy, Coffin said.



SATELLITE NETWORK, INC.

Effective July 12, 1987

CT	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
5	Joy Music Gloria	Country Crossroads	Country Crossroads	Great Churches of America (I)	In Concert	Great Churches of America (II)	Moody Bible School Lesson
6	The Life Great Churches of America (I)	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Moody Bible School Lesson
7	"	Pyrites Sings Sings	Pyrites Sings Sings	Word of Sings Sings	Pyrites Sings Sings	Pyrites Sings Sings	Pyrites Sings Sings
8	ACTS Methodist Hour	Shirley, the Bush Lodge	Shirley, the Bush Lodge	Shirley, the Bush Lodge	Shirley, the Bush Lodge	Shirley, the Bush Lodge	Lois Ringer Cartoon Adventures of the Lone Ranger
9	ACTS Hour	Op in the Country Crossroads	Catch the Country Crossroads	The Life Great Churches of America (I)	Joy of the Word	Christian Lifestyle Magazine Great Churches of America (II)	Bill Cooby Radio Workshop Hospital
10	Highlight Catch the Country Crossroads	What's Happening Today	What's Happening Today	What's Happening Today	What's Happening Today	What's Happening Today	Our World David Wade Show
11	Great Churches of America (II)	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Pyrites Sings Sings
12	The Baptist Hour	Pyrites Sings Sings	Pyrites Sings Sings	Word of Sings Sings	Pyrites Sings Sings	Pyrites Sings Sings	Jimmy Houston Cartoon Adventures of the Lone Ranger
1	Sunday School	"	"	"	"	"	Moody Bible School Lesson
2	"	COPE	COPE	COPE	COPE	COPE	Darryl and Gladys Cartoon
3	Love Worth Finding	Pyrites Sings Sings	Pyrites Sings Sings	Pyrites Sings Sings	Pyrites Sings Sings	Pyrites Sings Sings	Pyrites Sings Sings
4	Joy Music Gloria	Shirley, the Bush Lodge	Shirley, the Bush Lodge	Shirley, the Bush Lodge	Shirley, the Bush Lodge	Shirley, the Bush Lodge	Lois Ringer Cartoon Adventures of the Lone Ranger
5	Catch the Country Crossroads	Country Crossroads	Country Crossroads	In Concert	Country Crossroads	Country Crossroads	Bill Cooby Radio Workshop Hospital
6	Highlight ACTS Methodist Hour	What's Happening Today	What's Happening Today	What's Happening Today	What's Happening Today	What's Happening Today	Our World David Wade Show
7	"	"	"	"	"	"	Pyrites Sings Sings
8	Christian Lifestyle Magazine Great Churches of America (I)	Pyrites Sings Sings	Pyrites Sings Sings	Word of Sings Sings	Pyrites Sings Sings	Pyrites Sings Sings	Jimmy Houston Cartoon Adventures of the Lone Ranger
9	The Baptist Hour	COPE	COPE	COPE	COPE	COPE	Moody Bible School Lesson
10	Joy Music Gloria	Shirley, the Bush Lodge	Shirley, the Bush Lodge	Shirley, the Bush Lodge	Shirley, the Bush Lodge	Shirley, the Bush Lodge	Darryl and Gladys Cartoon
11	The Life Great Churches of America (II)	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Pyrites Sings Sings
12	"	"	"	"	"	"	Lois Ringer Cartoon Adventures of the Lone Ranger
1	Pyrites Sings Sings	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Bill Cooby Radio Workshop Hospital
2	ACTS Methodist Hour	Pyrites Sings Sings	Pyrites Sings Sings	Word of Sings Sings	Pyrites Sings Sings	Pyrites Sings Sings	Our World David Wade Show
3	Gloria	"	"	"	"	"	Pyrites Sings Sings
4	"	"	"	"	"	"	Jimmy Houston Cartoon Adventures of the Lone Ranger

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For information contact:



Farrell Blankenship
Miss. Bapt. Conv. Bd.
P O Box 530
Jackson, MS 39205

Christian Life Commission plans abortion conference

The Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission will sponsor a national conference on abortion Aug. 31-Sept. 1 at the Southern Baptist Convention Building in Nashville, including Paul Jones of Mississippi as a major speaker.

The conference, according to N. Larry Baker, executive director of the Christian moral concerns agency, "is designed to help Southern Baptist ministers, church staff, and lay persons attack the problem of abortion and minister to those who are affected by this critical issue.

"We can work together as Southern Baptists to shape the minds and hearts of others and move our nation away from its easy acceptance of abortion and toward a renewed commitment to the sanctity of human life," he said.

The conference will include addresses on biblical principles related to abortion, current legislation on abortion, a history of the abortion issue, and how Southern Baptists can effectively fight abortion both in their local communities and nationwide.

The conference will also feature six practical workshops: preaching on sanctity of human life, educating children about sex, establishing crisis pregnancy centers, working through public policy, caring for persons who face crisis pregnancies, and support-

ting state Baptist convention homes for children.

Speakers for the conference include Baker; Bob Terry, editor of Word and Way, the Missouri Baptist state paper; Jane Delaney, director of the Crisis Pregnancy Center of First Baptist Church, Euless, Texas; Fred Loper, M.D., national missionary for medical missions, Home Mission board; Paul Jones, executive director, Christian Action Commission, Mississippi Baptist Convention and Joe Trull, associate professor of Christian Ethics, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Other speakers include Tom Melzoni, pastor, Central Baptist Church, Oak Ridge, Tenn., and chairman of the 1987 Southern Baptist Convention Resolutions Committee; Phil Lineberger, pastor, Richardson Heights Baptist Church, Richardson, Texas; Robert Parham, director of abortion-related concerns, Christian Life Commission; Susie Hoeller, attorney, SBC Annuity Board and president of the Greater Dallas Right to Life Educational Foundation; and Andy Merritt, director, Crisis Pregnancy Center of Edgewood Baptist Church, Columbus, Ga.

For registration and housing information, write to Abortion Conference, Christian Life Commission, SBC, P. O. Box 25266, Nashville, Tenn. 37202-5266.

Women plan day of prayer: "Be Peacemakers"

BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE (BWA) — The BWA Women's Department has announced the theme for the next Baptist Women's Day of Prayer

which will be observed on Nov. 2, 1987, by Baptist women all over the world. The theme, "God's Command: Be Peacemakers," will inspire the

prayers of millions of Baptist women during the day. The Scripture texts in Matthew 5:9 and Colossians 1:19-20 will guide their thoughts as well.

Day care firings put church in spotlight

By Greg Warner

LUTZ, Fla. (BP) — A church's decision to require all its day-care workers to be Southern Baptists has brought nationwide publicity to Lutz, a quiet suburb north of Tampa, Fla.

Art Ballard, pastor of First Baptist Church of Lutz, fired the day-care director, a Methodist, and informed other day-care workers they would have to become Southern Baptists or lose their jobs.

Seven of the 25 workers quit rather than change denominations.

Ballard's action immediately caught the attention of news media as far away as New York and Idaho because of the U.S. Supreme Court decision June 24 that allows churches and religious organizations to discriminate against members of other churches and faiths in hiring practices.

Ballard said the court decision was welcome support but was not a part of the policy decision. The church's new employee policy was adopted by the personnel committee in February, he said.

"It was about a week before the Supreme Court decision that we decided to go with it," he added.

Ballard said he sought advice from Baptist officials and three attorneys to make sure the policy was legal. No one has disputed the church's right to hire only Southern Baptists, he said.

But two former workers said they quit not because of the policy, but because of Ballard's handling of it.

Though neither is Southern Baptist, both workers could have stayed under certain conditions because of their length of employment.

Ballard said 14 children have been taken out of the center, which now cares for 80 children. He added, however, that three of the workers have become Christians as a result of the policy change.

"I prayed and fasted over this decision for a number of days so that I could implement the policy with the least hurt for anyone involved and still have an effective implementation," Ballard said.

The pastor said most church members have supported the changes, as evidenced by a prayer meeting July 15.

"I told the church we had sinned against those people in day care and those parents for allowing lost people . . . and people who weren't going to church to teach," Ballard said. "We all agreed and got on our knees and repented of that sin."

Prior to becoming pastor of the Lutz church, Ballard was pastor of Old Forest Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg, Va., where he received media attention for attempting to begin a non-geographical association of "conservative" Baptist churches. He also drew attention by hosting several theological/political meetings concerning the controversy in the Southern Baptist Convention.

Greg Warner is associate editor of the Florida Baptist Witness



Carmen Simmons

Thursday, August 13, 1987

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 11

Carey honors retiring book store manager

Carmen Simmons, William Carey College bookstore manager for the past 25 years, was honored July 24 with a retirement reception. Her duties at Carey also included managing the post office, 1962-84.

Mrs. Simmons came to work at Carey in 1962 after working as a loan teller at Citizen's Bank in Hattiesburg.

Probably the biggest disappointment during her 25-year career was the fire that destroyed the old bookstore June 5, 1963. However, this led to the opening of a new building in May, 1964.

She was named to Who's Who in the South and Southwest for 1986-87, and

served as president (1981-82) and executive director (1982-83) of the Mississippi Association of College Stores.

Mrs. Simmons is a member of the Main Street Baptist Church, Hattiesburg.

She is married to Robert Floyd Simmons and they have two grown children, Emily S. Mooney, an instructor in child care at Jones County Junior College; and Robert D. Simmons, bonding manager for St. Paul's Insurance Company in New Orleans. They also have two granddaughters, 22-year-old Dina Mooney and 2-year-old Leighanne Simmons.

Missionary killed in helicopter

(Continued from page 3)

officials are expected to attend the funeral service, according to Mason.

Waldron, 34, of Silver Spring, Md., was making a one-day trip to the area around the Southern Baptist feeding station at Merhabete, about 45 minutes' flying time from Addis Ababa. He was planning to join Ethiopian officials there and accompany them as they dropped down in several areas to take samples of crops in the Merhabete area, in response to concern over inadequate summer rains.

Mason described Waldron with the Ethiopian word, "gobuz."

"It means you're a 110-volt plugged into a 220-volt socket," he said.

"He would go all the time. When he started moving, sparks started flying," Waldron would work six days a week starting at 7 a.m. and continuing until late in the night, getting by on far less sleep than most people, Mason added.

Mrs. Waldron, who goes by the name Jewell, was to fly home this week. She expects to give birth to her third child next March.

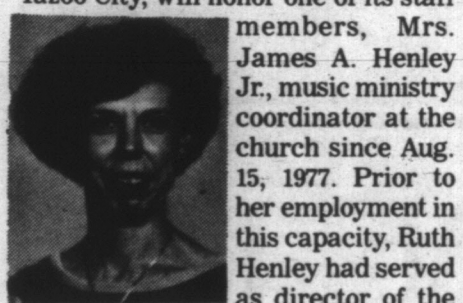
Waldron was business manager and treasurer for the organization of Southern Baptist missionaries in Ethiopia. Bartalsky was a regular pilot with Heli Mission, a Swiss humanitarian agency that provides support to the Southern Baptist missionaries in Ethiopia are operating five feeding centers accessible only by helicopter and airplane. They are beginning to look to broader development projects rather than feeding stations as a way to provide long-term help for future generations of Ethiopians.

Waldron is survived by his wife; two sons, Nicholas Troy, 4, and Timothy Lee, 2; and his mother, Joyce Waldron, also of Silver Spring.

The easiest way to make relatives feel at home is to visit them there.

Yazoo City will honor music coordinator on 10th year

As a part of their Homecoming '87 activities on Aug. 16, First Church, Yazoo City, will honor one of its staff members, Mrs. James A. Henley Jr., music ministry coordinator at the church since Aug. 15, 1977. Prior to her employment in this capacity, Ruth Henley had served as director of the youth choir. A reception will be held for her after the 7 p.m. worship hour Aug. 16.



Henley

A native of Kosciusko, she is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Irving Pylate, Sr. of Kosciusko. She holds a B.A. degree in music education from the University of Southern Mississippi. She is married to James A. Henley Jr., an employee of Mississippi Chemical Corporation. They are the parents of one daughter, Carman, 13.

Prior to their coming to Yazoo City, Mrs. Henley was employed by Kosciusko's First Baptist Church as organist and secretary to Bill Hardy, the church's minister of education. She has been a classroom teacher and in recent years has taught piano and kindergarten music at Manchester Academy.

In her capacity as music ministry coordinator, Mrs. Henley is responsible for the total music program of First Baptist Church. She directs the Youth Choir, the Sanctuary (Adult) Choir, selects the choral music, works with soloists, quartets and other special groups, directs the handbell choirs, and is responsible for enlisting directors, assistants, and accompanists for the younger-age choirs.

Four years ago Ruth Henley and Ken Hall, the minister of activities, originated the "Summer Showcase," a fast-paced musical review featuring the talented singers, actors, and musicians in the Youth Choir.

Macedonia celebrates centennial

Macedonia Church, in the western part of Union County, will celebrate its 100th anniversary, Aug. 16.

Sunday School classes will meet at 10 a.m., and preaching at 11, followed by "dinner on the grounds." The afternoon pageantry will dramatize some

highlights in the 100 years of the church; featuring pictures, recognition of past ministers and deacons, singing, and old-time fellowship.

"Everyone is encouraged to dress 'Old Fashioned'; however, this is optional," states Bill Foley, pastor.

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Mississippi doctor practices family medicine in Bangkla

By Maxine Stewart

In his third year of a Family Medicine Residence Program, Earl Hewitt considers himself fortunate, indeed, to have been able to go to Bangkla, Thailand, under the Medical Receptorship program offered through the Foreign Mission Board, to work (and learn) for two months.

Hewitt was not exactly a 'newcomer' to Thailand. He was stationed there in 1974-75, while in the United States Army.

His recent experience in working in the Bangkla Baptist Hospital was, of course, very different from his experience in Thailand during his army days. "It really was great getting up in the morning looking forward to going to work," recalled Hewitt. "The workers at the Mission hospital enjoy their work. They are eager to work. They are a delight to work with. They help make working there a very pleasant, a very special experience."

One day there were more than 150 patients in the out-patient clinic. "I think that was the best day I had," said Hewitt. "We were constantly seeing patients, interviewing them, trying to relate and communicate with them in their own language. It was so different from the states where you try to taper your practice to just enough to keep you busy, but not overworked, trying to finish early. But at the Mission hospital I liked staying late. I found I liked having a lot of patients come in."

Perhaps part of Hewitt's experience in Thailand was the kind of illnesses he was confronted with in addition to some of the 'regulars.' "There was a variety of illnesses," he said. "Each patient could have something so totally unusual that you might have to look it up in a textbook and try to figure out what was going on before knowing how to treat the patient." This turned out to be a real challenge. Of course, the missionary doctor was always there ready to assist.

Some of the illnesses, such as malaria, tuberculosis, leprosy, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), typhus, typhoid fever, mouth irritations from chewing betel nut, all kinds of parasitical diseases that aren't found in the United States, Hewitt was seeing for the first time. Before going to Thailand they were only textbook diseases.

There were also a number of snakebite patients, primarily farm people who had been bitten by the poisonous Russell's pit viper or the

green pit viper or a cobra, to name a few. Snakebite patients are encouraged to take the snake to the hospital, if possible. Usually, (putting Buddhist teaching aside of "not killing any living thing") someone is able to kill the snake to be taken along for the doctor to identify in order for him to administer the correct antivenom. "We had one patient who didn't know what kind of snake bit him," stated Hewitt. "He was given antivenom for Russell's pit viper, the most common bite, and he didn't improve. He was then given antivenom for cobra and he finally began to improve. He was probably the sickest snakebite patient we had."

"One man came in who had been bitten by a green pit viper," Hewitt pointed out. "He had killed the snake and wrapped it up in some kind of strong grass and brought it in. He had two tourniquets with the same type of grass tied around his arm."

Hewitt was concerned with the large number of hepatitis patients and other liver diseases found in Thailand. "I don't know how to account for it unless it is the fact that perscription drugs are so easily obtainable. People get them in the medicine shops — without a perscription — and take them, injections or oral, usually without supervision of a physician." Many patients go the pharmacy; explain their complaints to the salesperson and he, usually with NO training in pharmacy, makes a suggestion and a sale.

Hewitt found the Thai people very stoic. "They seem to be able to tolerate extreme pain," he said. "A woman in labor would come in and you'd never hear a sound, but if she was making facial expressions — a grimace, we'd know her labor was progressing. Even when she was complete and ready to go to the delivery suite, we didn't hear her expressing her discomfort."

Hewitt made a special effort to learn new Thai medical words and phrases daily in order to better communicate with the patients. He found this not only helpful, but the Thai people appreciated so much his efforts to learn their language. A hospital worker was always at his side to assist in communicating with patients.

It concerns Hewitt to see children "afraid of the doctor." He makes a special effort to try to become friends with children, in the states or Thailand. He was really taken aback in Thailand not to be able to make friends with Thai children. "I just was

not able to get any Thai children to 'play' with me," he said. "When they came into the clinic they were always scared. If I smiled at them or 'picked' playfully at them, they just looked at me, but they wouldn't smile back or show any emotion when it came to my trying to be friends with them."

On the day of the high attendance in the OPD clinic, a little 7-year-old girl came in with her father. Hewitt sensed right away all was not right with her. She wanted to sit under the examining table and kind of play to herself. There was some withdrawal. Hewitt questioned her father who said she had been treated elsewhere for seizures since being one-and-a-half years old. He said she sometimes played with other children but that she usually enjoyed playing by herself. He said she seldom showed any expressions of affection.

When the father picked the child up for Hewitt to examine her, she started to cry because she was having to go near the doctor. Hewitt started making funny faces, trying to involve her in some playful game by clapping his hands and getting her to clap her hands and pat his foot and getting her to pat her foot and touching his nose and getting her to touch her nose. "We had just given her a neurological test," said Hewitt, "all of which was part of the examination — with what I could communicate with her. I would hold out my hands and get her to pat my hands. She liked that very much, so much so I was able to get her to come a little closer. I took her hands and held them and tried to teach her to 'pat-a-cake.' After that she just walked right up to me. I picked her up and sat her in my lap. She then turned around and grabbed me and hugged my neck."

When I completed the examination and it was time for her to leave, she just kept sitting in my lap. I didn't want her to go, either, because that was the first child that I'd had in Thailand to show any type of affection, to come up to me or to hug me or anything. That was one of my most rewarding experiences in Thailand."

Note: Earl Hewitt is from Summit, Mississippi. His home church is First Baptist Church, Summit. He has lived in Jackson, for the last seven years (while in school), where he attended First Baptist Church. He attended the School of Medicine at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

Maxine Stewart is a missionary to Thailand.

Homecomings

Calvary, Silver Creek: Aug. 16; services at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Jerry Mixon, pastor, First Church, Winona, speaker; W.C. Rainey, music evangelist from Hattiesburg, musician; Mike Sutton, pastor.

Bethany Church (Jasper) Aug. 16; homecoming; Ben Carlisle of Pascagoula and a former pastor of the church, guest speaker for 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. services; lunch to be served in the fellowship hall; revival Aug. 17-21; each evening at 7; guest evangelist Charles Melton of Newton, director of missions for Newton Association and a professor at Clarke College; guest music evangelist, Allen Hill, minister of music for First Church, Union; pastor, Eddie M. Brady.

Gillsburg Church: August 23; services at 10:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; lunch at noon in the fellowship hall; no service Sunday night; Ed Campbell, guest speaker during morning service, now a semi-retired pastor. (In 1982, he and his wife Virginia, moved from New Mexico to Magnolia, Miss.

While in New Mexico they did mission work with the Navajo and Mesquero Indians. Campbell is a part time deputy sheriff in Pike County and serves as chaplain of the Pike County Jail and the satellite prison of Parchman State Prison. This work is commissioned by the Home Mission Board, SBC. He recently served as interim pastor of Gillsburg Church; afternoon service will include a brief history of the church, slides from a recent mission trip, and a program of gospel singing; music for the morning and afternoon service to be directed by Curtis Bishop; Paul Pearson, pastor.

Sand Hill (Jones) observed homecoming Aug. 9 and also began revival services on that day. The revival was to go through Aug. 14. The evangelist is Leon Holly, pastor of First Church, Vaiden; and the music director is Mark Brogan, minister of music at Sand Hill. The pastor is James H. Shumate. The homecoming service was followed by lunch at the church and an afternoon program featuring former pastors.

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Missionary News

BELEM, Brazil — Southern Baptist missionary Orman Gwynn has been elected president of the Equatorial Brazil Baptist Theological Seminary in Belem. He replaces Southern Baptist missionary Loyd Moon, who was president for 15 years. Moon will continue teaching at the seminary. Gwynn and his wife, Elizabeth, were appointed to Brazil in 1964.

Rachel DuBard missionary to Liberia, has completed furlough and returned to the field (address: P. O. Box 1416, Monrovia, Liberia). A native of Mississippi, she was born in Carroll County.

Margaret Fairburn, missionary to Liberia, has completed furlough and returned to the field (address: P. O. Box 1778, Monrovia, Liberia). She is a native of Tylertown.

Byron and Dora Harbin, missionaries to Brazil, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Caixa Postal 18345, 04699 Sao Paulo, SP, Brazil). He was born in Tuscaloosa County, Ala. She is the former Dora Dunkley of McLaurin, Miss.

A small house will hold as much happiness as a big one.

How far can a quarter go?

NEW YORK, NY, July 21 (ABS) — A quarter may not seem to go far these days.

But 25 cents put aside, starting on Labor Day, by November 22 would buy more than six Bibles.

This is one of the ways in which the American Bible Society is encouraging churchgoers observing Bible Sunday this year to share Scriptures with others who cannot obtain copies of their own.

Bible Sunday, which has been celebrated annually, continuously and long enough to have earned the right to be called an American tradition, was introduced by ABS as the turn of the century and, according to Alice E. Ball, who heads

the Society's National Division, is the longest continuing such observance in this country.

Christians in Zaire have been singled out to receive Scriptures through the generosity of their American counterparts on ABS Bible Sunday, as have those of Argentina — and in both countries there will be special emphasis on children and young people.

The day set aside to show special concern is November 22, the Sunday preceding Thanksgiving, although some churches may select another Sunday more convenient for them because of other events on their calendars.

Meadowood Bible Drillers honored at tent campout

By Lynn Sanderson

The Meadowood Church Children's Bible Drill Team had a tent campout at Charles Sanderson's June 5 and 6. Family members and friends came for a pot luck supper on Fri. night, June 5. Around 60 people were present as the children were presented with their trophies.

Seventeen children received trophies for advancing to State Drill. They were: Branna Coker, Chris Jackson, Dave Best, Emily Coker, Jason Brannon, Jennifer Rodabough, Jennifer Harlow, Josh Gilreath, Kristi Barrett, Misti Walls, Marlane Rodabough, Lorie Pearson, Samantha Morgan, Sheldon Owen, Scott Pace, Tracy Duke, and Will Thaxton. Candi Walls was presented a Service Award plaque for her assistance with Bible Drill this year. Perfect attendance awards were given to Emily Coker and Jason Brannon. Wayne Murphy was the special speaker for the evening.

The morning consisted of a variety of fun-filled activities. Seven teams, each made up of two or three children and one adult, entered the "Survival Race" through the woods. This event was won by Sheldon Owen, Dave Best, and Frank Owen. Will Thaxton caught the biggest fish and Marlane Rodabough and Kristi Barrett tied for the most fish. Samantha Morgan won the prize for the prettiest terrarium. The girls won the Water Balloon War. Samantha Morgan and Chris Jackson were elected Most Congenial. Riding the trails was by far the most popular activity.

The event concluding this year's Bible Drill activities was the retreat at Tishomingo State Park. July 18-19. One thing that made this such a special time was the fact that ten

children from The Baptist Children's Village in Jackson attended as special guests of various families connected with Bible Drill.

The whole group was treated to a hot dog supper at Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Duke's followed by a swim party at Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Gilreath's on Thursday night. The children from the Village then spent that night with their host families. On Friday the group went to Tishomingo State Park to spend the night and all day Saturday.

They swam Friday afternoon and had a talent show that night. Following the talent show Candi Walls spoke to the group on the subject of The Great Commission. Saturday included a Bible study led by Lynn Sanderson, hiking, going across the swinging bridge, paddle boats, swimming, and canoeing down Bear Creek.

Just before returning to Amory the group gathered for the presentation of the year-end awards. Jennifer Rodabough received the first place award for earning the most points for the year. In addition to her outstanding performance throughout the entire course she had memorized a total of 46 optional memory verses selected from the key passages. She was presented a picture Bible. Branna Coker and Samantha Morgan were presented plaques for their service as Bible Drill junior assistants.

Upon returning to Amory the children from the Village spent another night in the home of their host families and went to church with them on Sunday. Following lunch the group headed back to the Village.

Lynn Sanderson has been director of the Children's Bible Drill at Meadowood, Monroe County, for seven years.

Churches closed in Philippines

MINDANAO, Philippines (EP) — Fifty-three Christian and Missionary Alliance churches were closed last year in Mindanao's remote hinterlands because of political instability in the region, said Ben de Jesus, president of the C&MA Church

of the Philippines. He added that increased violence in the last year has caused populations from entire villages to relocate to bigger cities.

However, according to De Jesus, churches continue to grow in strength, especially in the southern Philippines.

Calvary, Silver Creek: Aug. 16-21; evangelist, Jerry Mixon, pastor, First Church, Winona; music leader, W.C. Rainey, Hattiesburg; Mike Sutton, pastor.

Longview (Oktibbeha): Aug. 16-21; services at 7:30 p.m.; evangelist, David Perry, pastor, Mt. Zion, Columbus; music director, Dudley Brasher, minister of music at Longview; pastor, James Hutcherson.

Utica: Sept. 6-11; 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; evangelist, Billy Smith, Albany, Ga.; song leader, J.B. Betts, Texarkana, Ark.; pastor, John Ed Snell.

First, Lake: Aug. 16-19; Sunday, 11 a.m., 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed. 7:30 p.m.; Tommy Anderson, evangelist; Marion Felton, music; Ken McLemore, pastor.

Falkner (Tippah): Aug. 16-21; 7:30 nightly; Dale Cross, Home Mission Board, evangelist; Lisa Leavell, music; Jim Ray, pastor.

Oak Grove (Winston): Aug. 23-28; Sunday, 11 a.m., 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri. 7:30 p.m.; J. W. Williams, pastor, Ellison Ridge, evangelist; Ivan Reynolds, Jeremy Thomas, music; W. A. McPheeters, pastor.

Harmony (Winston): Aug. 23-28; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri. at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; evangelist, William C. Burns, Calvary Church, Bogalusa, La.; music leader, Steve Quinn, Noxapater; Ellis Richardson, pastor.

Who was right?

(Continued from page 8)

bid to speak in tongues." Seems contradictory, doesn't it? What determines "the truth?" Apparently the particular interpretation of the passages by 48 of 68 people on the board.

I would say that we are on dangerous ground. Again, one writer asserted that the burden of proof for theological innovations remains, "as always and everywhere and in all things, on the innovators and not the traditionalists." It's interesting that the Scribes and Pharisees (the majority traditionalists) said something similar to Jesus Christ (the supreme theological innovator).

And who was right?

Walter Brown Th.D.

Assistant Professor of Religion
William Carey College on the Coast

Mozambique . . .

(Continued from page 6)

tality rate in the world, with 325 of every 1,000 children dying before age 5. Only 30 percent of the nation's population has access to health services and only 13 percent has access to safe water, the report added.

The proposed Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board plan will require at least \$1 million in Southern Baptist hunger relief money and is to include training Mozambican Baptists to run feeding programs and operating a seed and farming tool distribution program.

Kathy Palen writes for the BP Washington bureau.

Revival Dates

Concord (Rankin): Aug. 16-21; David Townsend, evangelist; Leroy Stuart, music; Frank Smith, pastor; services 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Crowder: Aug. 16-21; services at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; evangelist, Mike Burczynski, pastor, Trinity Church, Moscow, Idaho; music leader, Sean Keith, Clarksdale Church; Harvey Sewell, pastor.

West Corinth, Corinth: Aug. 16-20; Sunday at 10:40 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Thurs., 10:45 a.m. and 7 p.m.; evangelist, Earl Kelly, executive director, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board; music director, Bryan Essary, Corinth; Alvis K. Cooper, pastor.

Pearl River Community Baptist Church, Philadelphia: Aug. 31-Sept. 4; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; evangelist, Olyn F. Roberts, director of missions in Natchez, (Adams-Union Association); music directed by Dave and Lucille Thomas; Clay Gibson, pastor.

Main Street, Mendenhall: Aug. 16-21; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri. at noon at 7:30 p.m.; evangelist, W. Everett Martin, First Church, Warren, Ark.; music leader, Dickie Courtney, Magee; pastor, Dewitt Mitchell.

Tillatoba, Tillatoba: Aug. 16-21; services Sun. evening at 7; Mon.-Fri. 7:30 nightly; Truman Scarborough, pastor, First, Coffeeville, evangelist; Hollis Ishee, Grenada, music; Rick Glidewell, pastor.

Doty Springs, (Attala): Aug. 16-21 (Sun.-Fri.); Joe K. Hill, pastor (also the speaker for the revival); Sunday service at 10:30; lunch to be served following the Sunday service; services each evening at 7:30.

Ora (Covington): Aug. 16-21; services, Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. nightly; Billy Crosby, evangelist; Robert Fortenberry, pastor.

Heucks Retreat Church, Brookhaven, (Lincoln County): Aug. 16-21; Mickey Bounds of Cheniere Church, West Monroe, La., guest evangelist; Steve Huey, First Church, Brookhaven, in charge of music; services at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; pastor, Richard Bradley.

Fellowship (Webster): Aug. 16-19; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed. 7 p.m.; guest evangelist, Johnnie Brigman, pastor, FBC, Bessemer, Ala.; music evangelist, Eugene May, West Point; Lloyd Wilson, pastor.

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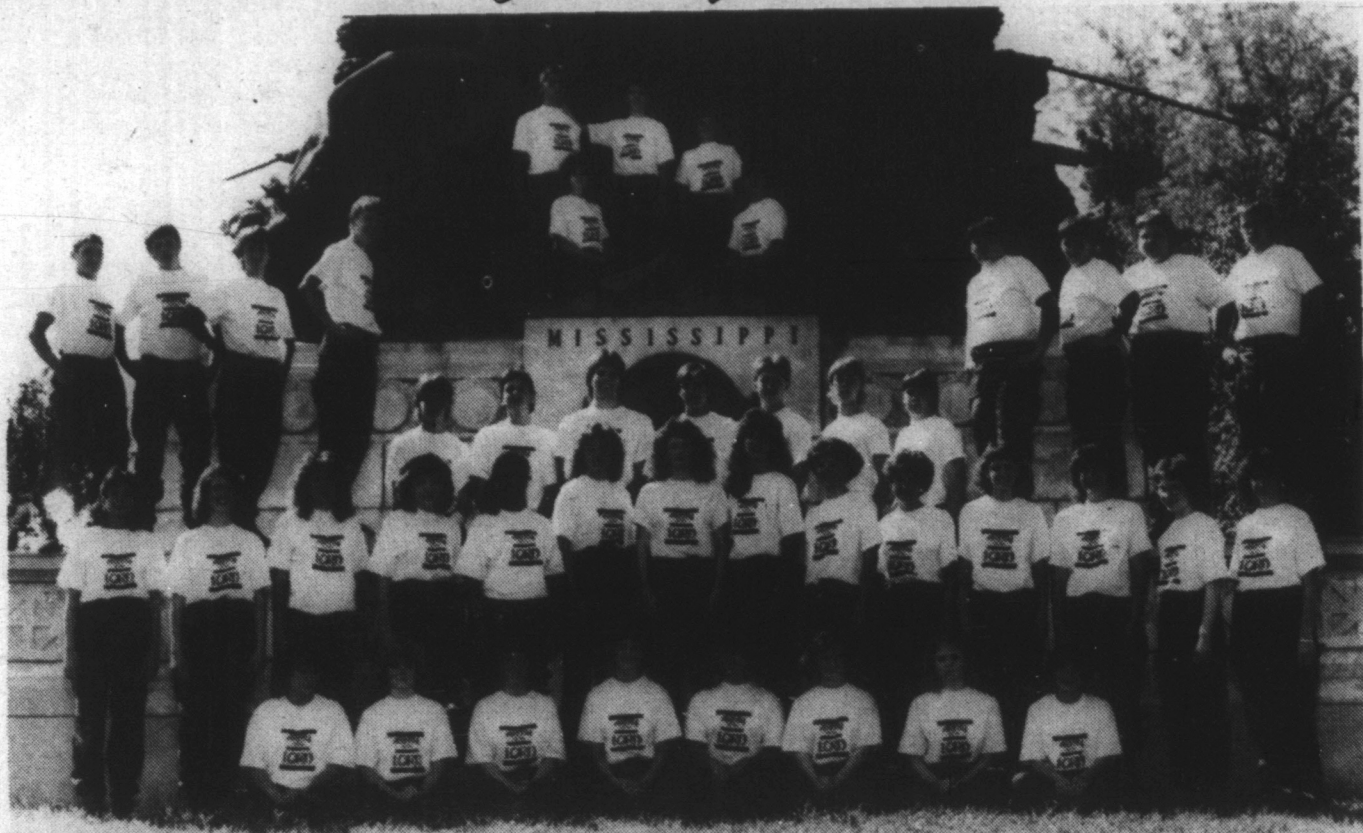
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Just for the Record



Calvary Church, Vicksburg, Youth Choir under the direction of Jerry Peagler, has recently returned from summer tour

of churches in Mississippi and Alabama where they presented the contemporary musical drama, "Army of the Lord."



This, the new parsonage of Success Church, Saucier, is a four-bedroom home, built entirely by the men of the church in one year and when Pastor Sid Taylor, his wife Kay, and family moved in, the home was already debt-free.

Staff Changes

Providence Church, Grenada, has called Clyde C. Rogers as pastor. Having retired from the pastorate of Lucy Road Baptist Church, Millington, Tenn. three years ago, Rogers has been interim pastor at Providence since November, 1986. A native of Birmingham, Ala., he

Rogers was graduated from Samford University and New Orleans Seminary. He has served churches in Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee. Former Mississippi pastorates include Osyka; First

Church, Bruce; Olive Branch; and Como. Rogers recently celebrated his 51st anniversary in the ministry. Over 46 of those years were spent in the pastorate. He is married to the former Doris Mitchell of Birmingham. They have two children, a son, Mitch, and a daughter, Marcia Hennesy. A reception will be held at Providence Church in the fellowship hall on, Aug. 16, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. to welcome Rogers.

James A. Case has resigned as pastor of Lakeshore Church, Ferriday, La. He can be reached at Rt 5, Box 590, Brookhaven, MS 39601, phone 833-8244 for supply or interim work.

Banks retires, health problems

RICHMOND, Va. — (BP) Samuel A. Banks, the first non-Baptist president of the University of Richmond, resigned abruptly July 30, citing health problems.

The surprise announcement followed a closed door meeting of the Baptist-affiliated university's board of trustees.

In a written statement, University Rector Joseph A. Jennings said: "Banks discovered recently that his physical condition would not warrant his continued tenure as president

... and upon advice of his physician, he has requested permission to retire. Recurring heart disease ... would limit his energy and time available for the presidency."

Banks, 59, suffered a heart attack nine years ago, but apparently has been in good health until recently. Banks' early retirement will be effective Aug. 15.

Banks, an ordained Methodist minister, was president of Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa., until his election as UR's sixth president.

Musicians on Mission: The Chancel Choir of First Church, Philadelphia, presented the area premier of the new musical called "The Homecoming" at the Neshoba County Fair. The minister of music at First Church is Mickey Gentry. The pastor is Eugene Dobbs.

First Church, Leland, celebrated its centennial May 17. Copies of the book that traces the history of the church are available to former members and the general public for \$3.50 from FBC, Box 286, Leland, MS 38756.

Mississippi Baptist Medical Center is offering free cardiopulmonary resuscitation classes for family members of children ages birth to eight years old Aug. 18, at 6:30 p.m.

The class is designed to provide participants with a knowledge base for recognizing a need for and performing infant and child CPR according to the standards of the American Heart Association. To register or to receive more information call 968-1044 before Aug. 14.



The Girls in Action of First Church, Cleveland, recently held a recognition service. The girls were awarded certificates of participation and badges were awarded at each grade level for work done during the year. Pictured, front row, are Myra Kleis, GA director, Barbara Kleis, Jennifer Ford, Kelly Wilder, Corey Fitzgerald, Jennifer Hunter, Heather Shannon. Second row, Marcia Hunter, GA leader, Jennifer Clifton, Destin Fitzgerald, Sarah Rives, Kim Miller, Jenni Rives, Katherine Meyer, Faith Sansone, Mary JoAnn Peden. Third row, Karen Smith, GA leader and Jerry Sansone, GA leader. Jennifer Clifton and Sarah Rives, 6th graders, were presented GA pins by their mothers, Mrs. Linda Lindsey and Mrs. Sue Rives. Sarah Rives was also presented with a GA charm by Mrs. Juanita Sanders from the WMU for having earned all six of her GA badges.

Names in the News

Steve Cowan was licensed to the gospel ministry at Nineteenth Avenue Church, Hattiesburg, (Lebanon Association) on August 2. He is a student at the University of Southern Mississippi and will be enrolling at Southwestern Seminary in January. Kenneth E. Walters is pastor of Nineteenth Avenue Church.

Paul Bennett, a student at New Orleans Seminary, was ordained by the Fellowship Church, Thomaston, Ga., July 12, where he serves as youth minister. He attended Baptist Bible Institute in Florida and his family lives in Pascagoula.

New Hope

Church, Lee Association, ordained Ricky Kelly, center, to the gospel music ministry, in a service July 12. Wayne Marshall, left, pastor at Guntown, brought the charge to the church. Ricky Blythe, pastor of New Hope Church, right, brought the charge to the candidate. New Hope presented a 1975 pulpit edition of the Baptist Hymnal to Kelly, who is presently minister of music and youth at Guntown Church. This fall he will enroll at Blue Mountain College.



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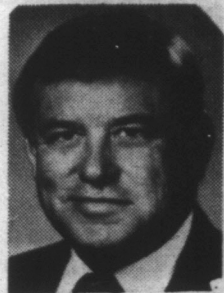
SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON COMMENTARIES

"Spiritual discipline is the process of salvation"

By Al Finch

I Timothy 4:6-16

As the athlete prepares for the games, long hours of training and discipline are necessary. For the football season many teams are already "in training." Some are practicing as many as three times a day. What is necessary for the athlete is a pattern for all of life.



Finch

The "good minister of Jesus Christ" begins his discipline with good nourishment and exercise (I Timothy 4:6-9). The "words of faith and . . . good doctrine" suggest the proper food for the preparation of spiritual discipline. Bodily exercise is temporal and "profiteth little." Godliness is "profitable unto all things" both in this life and the "life . . . to come." All men pay the "high cost of low living." Therefore great effort must

LIFE AND WORK

be made by the believer to relate God's way to our world.

This godliness is constantly trusting in God, even when life is hard (I Timothy 4:10-11). God is the "Savior of all men" suggests he is available universally. The condition of his availability is belief.

The discipline of the minister demands that he be consistently exemplary in his entire life (I Timothy 4:12-13). Limitations, such as man's reaction to his youthfulness, are not to be excuses for failure to be a consistent example. Timothy's age is uncertain but he may have reacted in timidity in the presence of those older than he. Timothy was, nevertheless, to be an example in his living and continue in the leadership of worship (I Timothy 4:13).

Again, the disciplined servant is to be conscientiously using his spiritual gifts (I Timothy

4:14). This gift of Timothy is accompanied by prophecy. Prophecy means to speak out for God, to deliver God's word. Perhaps in speaking for God Timothy felt his disadvantage of age.

The phrase "laying on of the hands of the presbytery" is a reference to Timothy's ordination. In I Timothy 1:6 Paul speaks only of his laying on of hands. The place and time of this experience is unimportant but the ceremony marks the recognition of the church that Timothy has "gifts of grace," to do the work of God. In Acts 13:2ff this ceremony is more a setting apart by the church of Paul and Barnabas. Ordination as practiced by Southern Baptists appears to involve two things. First, the recognition of spiritual gifts and the ability of the ordained to use those gifts. Second, it involves the identification of the ordained with the Christian fellowship and places responsibility for the ordained upon the fellowship.

Finally, spiritual discipline demands that the

minister be carefully attentive to these qualities of discipline (I Timothy 4:15-16). "Profiting" in verse 15 is a continuation of the thought in verse 8. Three phrases indicate this attentiveness, "give thyself wholly," "take heed unto thyself," and "continue" in doctrine. The phrase "exercise thyself unto godliness" has real meaning here.

The use of the word "save" in verse 16 may be a reference to the word "promise" in verse 8. The discipline of one's life enables one to constantly remain in the process of the creative action of God. Complete salvation comes in the future life.

Spiritual discipline is the process of salvation (I Timothy 4:16). Salvation establishes a beachhead, an initial event in which God comes into a man's life. Also, there must be the occupation of the territory in which every area of a man's life is brought under God's control. Every effort for godliness should be made.

Al Finch is pastor, First, Greenwood.

How to make the right response to God's mercy

By Julian W. Fagan, III

Romans 12

How can you adequately respond to God's mercy? There is but one way — offer yourself. But response is not as simple as placing



Fagan

yourself on the available bodies list. A living sacrifice that is pleasing to God has outward dimensions based upon a discerned and accepted inner reality. We may want to respond to God and please him, but first we must be transformed inwardly before we can resist conforming to the world. God causes the spiritual transformation, yet it is a process in which we participate by renewing our individual minds. The first step is to order your inner life. Only then can you accomplish what God wants, mature spiritually, please God, and approve what is truly perfect (v. 2).

The mind is essential to living in response to

UNIFORM

God's mercy. We must ponder, examine, measure, and know the faith and power that God has given to us as individual persons — sober analysis. Do not esteem yourself more worthy than you are, more knowledgeable than you are, more important than you are (v. 3). One must accept self as the person God is making one to be. Privately, personally, quietly, I must accept my body, my life, and my abilities as that which God has chosen for me and then order my life accordingly — with gratitude and with confidence. We must order our inner lives with our minds and be transformed.

At this point we look around us and see other Christians. They are different — not better, not worse — just different. Gifts, they are called, make us different; and all gifts are from God. He has designed them into us according to his grace (v. 6). If we each order our inner lives, accept our gifts, and develop them, the church

becomes a living, functioning body. Superiority does not enter into the function of giftedness, but diversity does. Only as we acknowledge and accept diversity does unity come. The body of believers then comes together and functions powerfully as God's church. Order your inner life and accept your place in the church. Enjoy and exercise your giftedness. Get on the team and play your position. Let God be the manager.

The right response to God's mercy also means you will activate love in your lifestyle. Love is multi-faceted. Love detests evil and holds to good. Love devotes itself to its brothers and sisters. Love honors others above itself. Love is on fire, it burns with action. It rejoices in its hope, is patient in trouble, is faithful in prayer. Love embraces its enemies, shares with its own, welcomes the needy (vv. 9-13).

Love is a blessing. It does not curse, even its enemies. Yet, it cries with the hurting and shouts with the happy. Love brings harmony by associating with the lowly, for it is better than no one. Somehow love can take the jabs without

attempting revenge, for it knows God is in control, revenge is up to him. There is a peacefulness around love. It is astounding how love affects everybody. Love makes the angry sorrowful and the enemy ashamed. That love is the lifestyle that draws the world (vv. 14-21).

Sound too good to be true? It is true — and possible! The right response to God's mercy opens the valve that allows the power of God to flow through life. But remember, it is not simply a list of actions we follow. Action is the result. However, it is preceded by the ordering of the inner life and the acceptance of a purposed giftedness in the church. The reality begins with the recognition of God's mercy, his tender kindness for me. I experience it in my heart. I contemplate it in my mind. I exercise it in my will.

The right response to God's mercy does not produce an instantaneous lifestyle. Through a process of growth we mature to live love. It begins with a renewed mind. How is your inner world?

Julian Fagan III is pastor, First, Pontotoc.

The dragon wages war against the woman

By Rex Yancey

Revelation 12:1-6, 11-12; 13:1-3, 18

John's purpose for writing the Revelation was not to give an artist something to paint. The author had two reasons for using apocalyptic writing. The first reason was to conceal his message from the Roman Empire. The second reason was to reveal his message to Christians. Any time an author employs a form of writing with these two purposes in mind, there is going to be diversity in interpretation. Therefore, we have different millennial



Yancey

views, which should not be the criteria used for a test of fellowship. Southern Baptists should be broad enough to allow for the amillennial, historical premillennial, and dispensational premillennial points of view.

The point is that all these views espouse the truth that Jesus is coming again; it may be soon; we are accountable; we must do what we can while we can; and when he comes it will be too late to get ready to meet him. Therefore,

BIBLE BOOK

we should not be dogmatic to the point of withdrawing fellowship or arguing with a brother or sister in Christ about matters with which our best scholars disagree.

In 12:1-2, John saw a great sign in heaven. This sign is going to point to some spiritual significance or truth. The problem of the sign is to discover whom the woman and the child represent. The manchild is certainly symbolic of Christ. Language that was accepted description for the Messiah is utilized in verse 5. The woman represents the "mother" of the Messiah. However, this woman is so clearly superhuman that she can hardly be visualized as any single human being (Mary).

In the Old Testament the chosen people of God, the ideal Israel, are often referred to as the Bride of God. It was from this chosen people that Jesus Christ sprang in his human lineage. It is for the ideal community of the chosen ones of God that the woman stands. Out of that community Christ came, and it was that

community which underwent such terrible suffering at the hands of a hostile world. We may, indeed, call this the church, if we remember that the church is the community of God's people in every age.

In verses 3-4, John saw another sign in heaven. The devil is leading the forces of evil against the woman. His allies are the first beast (13:1) who symbolizes the emperor of Rome, Domitian, and the second beast (13:11) who symbolizes the committee set up in Asia Minor to enforce emperor worship. The forces of good are led by God who also has two allies: the Lamb (14:1) who symbolizes the redeeming Christ, and the sickle (14:14) which symbolizes eternal judgment. The battle is one bitterly fought, but the victory goes to God with his redeeming Christ and eternal judgment.

There are times in all ages when in the battle of good versus evil the situation seems hopeless for the good. However, we must remember three things about the community of God: (1) It was from that community that Christ came; and out of it Christ has still to come for those who have never known him. (2)

There are forces of evil, spiritual and human, which are set on the destruction of the community of God. These forces have great wisdom (seven heads), great power (ten horns), and great authority (seven diadems) (verse 4). (3) However strong the opposition against God's people, and however sore its sufferings, the community of God is under the protection of God, and, therefore, it can never be ultimately wiped out.

One final note, in 13:18, John gives the number of the beast — 666. People have worked out schemes to try to prove that a historical figure like Hitler was the beast. He was very evil, but he wasn't the beast. The numeral 666 stands for imperfection raised to its highest degree. It is close to the sacred number 7, but it falls short. In Sibylline Oracles (1:324), 888 was used as a symbol for Jesus. He goes as far beyond the perfect 777 as the beast falls short of it. If 666 is to be applied to one man, it appears to be Domitian, monster of sin, cruelty, and degradation. World power and false religion will always be in opposition to the true people of God.

Rex Young is pastor, First, Quitman.

Baptist Record

capsules

Just one year out of seminary, Arnold makes island waves

By Elizabeth Watson

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, Texas (BP) — Charlie Arnold's most effective pastoral tools are sunscreen and gospel tracts.

Most of Arnold's peers from the 1986 graduating class of Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, are busy tending more traditional flocks. But Arnold's pastoral role includes meeting summer vacationers and "winter Texans" on beaches here on a skinny five-mile resort island just off the southern Texas coast.

As pastor of the island's only church, Arnold works with South Padre's 1,066 permanent residents, most of whom are retirees. Arnold practices what he calls "lifestyle" ministry when he's not preparing sermons for the 79-member Island Baptist Church or his weekly columns for the island newspaper.

"As I go about my daily routine, I try to be everyone's friend in the name of Jesus," he said.

Arnold packs tracts in his raquetball cans and distributes them to people he meets at the health club. Recently he led the club manager to become a Christian.

There isn't a permanent resident on the island who doesn't know Arnold. People regularly stop him on the street and thank him for his question-and-answer newspaper column, "The Catechizer."

On Sundays Arnold dons a tie for his pulpit role. But his congregation's apparel ranges from cut-offs and Hawaiian shirts to three-piece suits.

"We almost always have more visitors than members," he said.

The island's biggest influx of visitors comes at spring break. This March more than 200,000 college revelers swamped the island.

Island Baptist Church, joining forces with 10 Baptist Student Unions, sponsored sunburn aid stations, volleyball games, concerts, and bonfires.

Church members and BSU students distributed more than 8,000 gospel tracts, resulting in 55 commitments of faith in Christ.

Off the Record

A summer tourist told after returning home about "visiting" with a group of native Vermonters who sat for an hour without speaking a word.

The tourist said he finally asked, "Is it against the law to talk around here?"

One of the natives, he said, replied: "No, but there's an understanding. No one's to speak unless he is sure he can improve the silence."

"We'd crash parties at hotels and ask students if they had received a 'souvenir' tract yet," Arnold said. "Most of them would dive for the tracts."

On the back of the tracts were printed the church telephone number and an invitation to call anytime they needed help. "We told them to call us if they got too drunk to drive home, lost their money or got in trouble," Arnold said.

"We got several hundred calls, eight of which resulted in professions of faith," he said.

Arnold wants to establish a permanent "mission outreach post" on the island. "More than five million people visit South Padre Island each year," he said. "We need a facility that will serve as a bunkhouse for mission workers and Sunday School space."

Arnold has 11 Texas Baptist youth groups lined up this summer for mission projects on the island. "With 39,000 people per day visiting the island from virtually every country in the world, the opportunity is astounding," he said.

The fact that Arnold graduated from seminary just one year ago doesn't limit his vision or determination. He has plans to make waves on Padre Island.

Elizabeth Watson writes for Southwestern Seminary.

Polish Baptists report growth

WARSAW, POLAND — Twenty percent growth in two years has been reported by the Polish Baptist Union. Polish Baptists numbered 3,049 at the end of the 1986, 566 more than 1984's membership. Union funding from its 50-plus churches has increased 100 percent during the same period. Seven new churches are being constructed. And construction is slated to begin soon on a new seminary and conference center at Radosc, 20 kilometers from Warsaw.

Baker named to anti-pornography alliance

NASHVILLE (BP) — N. Larry Baker, executive director of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, has been named to the executive committee of the Religious Alliance Against Pornography.

The alliance is a coalition of U.S. religious leaders. The group's purpose is to oppose hard-core and child pornography, which are not protected by the U.S. Constitution.

Baker was recommended to the alliance by Southern Baptist Convention President Adrian P. Rogers, who formerly was on the organization's executive committee. Rogers and other members of the alliance met with President Reagan last year to express the group's concerns about pornography.

Norwegian Baptists elect a woman

VERDAL, NORWAY — Baptists in Norway have elected a woman as president of the Union. Ragnild Aasheim is the first woman ever to be elected in Norway to this position. She has previously held positions within the Baptist Union as youth leader, scout leader, member of her congregation's board, and a member of the executive board of the women's department. For four years she also served as a member of the Union's executive board.

Music ministry is 75 years old in Sweden

LINKOPING, SWEDEN — Music made this year's Swedish Baptist Conference, held here May 27-31, 1987, "a special kind of meeting," according to General Secretary Birgit Karlsson. Baptists in Sweden celebrated the 75th anniversary of the founding of their Music Union (Department). On hand were Baptist music groups from many parts of Sweden. Youth and children's choirs, mixed choirs, organists and instrumental groups, and more were on hand to help celebrate this important milestone.

Altogether the 380 Swedish Baptist churches have some 242 choirs with approximately 4,000 members. The

Music Union was organized in 1912. One of the conductors present in the Conference, a man over 70 years of age, is the son of one of the founders of the Music Union.

Bibles may end up firecrackers

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. (EP) — Some Bibles that are sent overseas may wind up being used to make firecrackers, according to a report received by Christian Aid Mission.

Johnson Philip, a Christian leader in northern India's Madyah Pradesh, claims that shiploads of unwanted books secured by fireworks manufacturers in Western countries "without exception... contain a very high percentage of Christian books." Philip, a noted lecturer on creation science, also says that "three years ago a paper plant in Gujarat received several truckloads of new Bibles, all printed in the U.S.A. They were all shredded and recycled."

Philip urged Christians in North America to make sure excess and donated Christian books and Bibles are distributed through Christian channels.

Excise tax on investment income?

WASHINGTON (BP) — A staff report issued by the House Ways and Means Committee and Joint Committee on Taxation suggests the imposition of a five percent excise tax on the investment income of tax-exempt organizations — including religious organizations — as a possible means of increasing revenue for the federal budget.

Such action, the report said, would generate more than \$15 billion over a three-year period.

Under current tax law, private foundations generally pay a two percent excise tax on their net investment income.

SCRAPBOOK

Greatness

Do you mourn your ordinariness,
Knowing you can never claim
Those great talents and abilities
That would bring you wealth and fame?

Christ has spoken on that subject,
And his wisdom is divine;
He says to us that greatness
May indeed be yours or mine!

When we love and care for others,
And true kindness to them show,
When we listen sympathetically
To another's tale of woe,

When we stop for a wounded brother,
Pour upon him oil and wine,
When we share with a hungry neighbor,
Invite him to "Come and dine,"

When we stoop to lift another,
Help hurting people in their need;
Then Jesus says, "You are My servant;
You are great, to Me, indeed."

—Lois P. Harlow
Meridian

If I don't reach out for Jesus

If I don't reach out for Jesus, if I won't take up the time
To share his message, his Word that I claim to be mine,
Then how can I ask him to bless me, and how can I claim his grace?
If I won't reach out for Jesus, then who will take my place?

So many times I've seen the chance to offer in Jesus' name,
If nothing more than some water, a chance to declare his fame;
But oh! I say I just can't, for some may think it silly of me.
For fear I may sound fanatical, I turn my back on their need.

So what if a child is hungry, so what if a bum's in the road?
So what if a woman is desperate, why should I share the load?
Then, just like a bolt of lightning, across my mind I see:
Jesus is searching my heart and mind, and wants to reach out through me.

So if I don't reach out for Jesus, if my heart can't see the need
Of the millions searching in darkness, for a promise I claim and believe,
Then who will reach out for Jesus? Who will take up the time?
Who will have a heart to reach? Who??? If I don't use mine.

—Konnie Kay Hoggatt
Wesson

What could I do?

Oh, what could I do without Christ?
Who loves me so?
All would be in vain,

Nothing the same.
I would walk in sinking sand,
And have no Promised Land.
—Virgie Kelly
Potts Camp

Baptist Record

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